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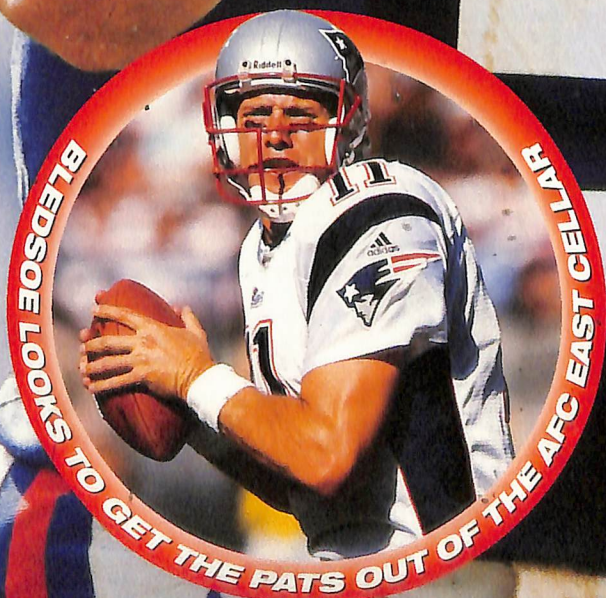
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Kerry Collins is determined to get
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(story inside)



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3 WAYS TO WIN	Finish 1st	Finish 2nd	Finish 3rd	Finish 4th	Finish 5th	Finish 6-10	Finish 11-25	Finish 26-100
OVERALL (All Teams)	\$10,000 CASH	\$5,000 CASH	\$1,000 CASH	\$750 CASH	\$500 CASH	\$250 CASH	\$100 CASH	\$50 CASH
LEAGUE (25 Teams)	\$400 CASH	\$200 CASH	\$100 CASH	\$50 Gift Certificate	Plus! A 25% off entry coupon to next year's game will be awarded to each of the 24 teams in the league with the Grand Prize Winner!			
WEEKLY (All Teams)	\$50 CASH	\$30 CASH	\$20 CASH	Entry Deadline is 9 PM CT on Saturday, September 8, 2001				

Congratulations!
to Tom Lawson, Narragansett, RI
2000 Grand Prize Winner of \$15,500

LINEUP

◆ Starting lineup consists of:

- 3-Kickers
- 3-Quarterbacks
- 6-Running Backs
- 2-Tight Ends
- 6-Wide Receivers
- 2-Defense/Special Teams

- ◆ Starting lineup value cannot exceed \$60,000,000.
- ◆ The bench consists of any 11 players and/or defense/special teams. They are your backups and may be placed onto your starting lineup for any reason: injury, poor performance, match-ups, etc.
- ◆ Value cap and position distribution rules do not apply for the bench, but do apply when switched onto the starting lineup.
- ◆ Unlisted players have a value of \$1,500,000. They must be placed on the bench until Week 2.

PLAYER CHANGES

- ◆ To make lineup changes, a toll-free number and an account number will be provided, or you may make them via the Internet.
- ◆ The deadline for weekly lineup changes is Saturday at 9 PM CT for Sunday and Monday games, or by 9 PM CT the night before any other game (changes for Thursday games must be made by 9 PM Wednesday night). The first roster change deadline is Saturday, Sept. 15, 2001.
- ◆ The available lineup changes are as follows:
Any player change by 9 PM CT Sept. 8th (unlimited) ..FREE!
Bench Switch (unlimited)FREE!
New Player Pick-Up (limit 12).....FREE!
- ◆ There will be a \$2.00 surcharge per team each time player transactions are made via phone, fax, mail, e-mail, or voice mail rather than via the Internet.

ADDITIONAL RULES

- ◆ CDM Fantasy Football welcomes entries from around the world. All fees, however, must be paid with U.S. funds. For Canadian, Mexican and overseas entries, please add \$15 to cover additional mailing costs.
- ◆ Player changes cannot be made until your team has been entered into the computer database. Mailed and faxed teams will be entered within five working days of receipt.
- ◆ Not responsible for lost, late, stolen or misdirected entries or player changes.
- ◆ Our toll line is 314-991-1511. Our fax number is 314-991-1564.
- ◆ If you submit multiple entries, please specify if you would like the teams entered in the same or different leagues. Limit 6 teams per customer per one league.
- ◆ If you and your friends would like to be in the same league, please mail the entry forms in together and specify "Same League" or call for special instructions. Limit 6 friends' teams per one league.
- ◆ CDM Fantasy Football is not affiliated in any way with the National Football League.
- ◆ Contest is subject to all United States Federal and State laws. CDM Fantasy Football may not be used for any form of gambling.

SCORING

PASSING Passing TD 3 Points 20 Passing Yds* 1 Point	KICKING Field Goal 3 Points Extra Point 1 Point
RECEIVING Receiving TD 3 Points 10 Receiving Yds** 1 Point 2 pt. Conversion 2 Points	DEFENSE/SPECIAL TEAMS Shutout 15 Points 1-10 Pts Allowed 10 Points 11-20 Pts Allowed 5 Points Safety 5 Points
RUSHING Rushing TD 6 Points 10 Rushing Yds** 1 Point 2 pt. Conversion 2 Points	Any Defensive or Special Teams TD 6 Points
OTHER TD'S BY PLAYER Any other TD 6 Points Such as KO Return, Punt Return, Interception Return or a Recovery	TEAM VICTORY Each Player 3 Points Def/Special Team 3 Points

- *0.05 Point awarded for each passing yard
- **0.10 Point awarded for each rushing or receiving yard
- ◆ Teams in each league are sorted by each team's total points. The team with the highest point total will be first and the team with the lowest point total will be last.
- ◆ To determine overall standings, all teams in CDM Fantasy Football are sorted by each team's total points.
- ◆ Points are accumulated weekly for all 22 starting players and defense/special teams. The week begins with games played on Thursday and ends with games played on Monday. The game begins with Week 1.
- ◆ For each of your starting players whose NFL team wins that week, you will get three points. If your starting defense wins that week, you will get three points.
- ◆ Defense points allowed is based on the final score of the game versus the defense/special team selected.
- ◆ Yards from defense/special teams' returns do not count.
- ◆ Two point conversion points are awarded to the player scoring the conversion.
- ◆ Teams will receive 0.05 points for each passing yard and 0.10 points for each receiving or rushing yard.
- ◆ All points accumulated by the players on the starting lineup, regardless of what position they play during the season, contribute to a team's point totals.
- ◆ A player's points are added to your team's point totals only during the weeks that he is in your starting lineup.
- ◆ Bench players' points do not contribute to your team's point totals for the weeks they are not in the starting lineup.

- ◆ Points by a player before he was on your roster do not count.
- ◆ Pre-season, playoff, and pro bowl points do not contribute to your team's point totals.
- ◆ To determine weekly winners each Tuesday, the point totals from games played the previous 5 days (Thursday-Monday) will be used. First prizes will be awarded September 18, 2001, and will be based on games played September 16-17.

LEAGUE

- ◆ Leagues are formed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- ◆ 25 teams form a league.
- ◆ All teams compete for the overall grand prize.
- ◆ Play in the same league with your friends. For details call 1-888-676-2248 or visit our Internet site.

STANDINGS

- ◆ Updated standings will be available via the Internet each Tuesday by 5 PM CT. The reports will include your team summary, league summary, and the top teams overall.
- ◆ Mailed standings, if purchased, will be sent every Wednesday beginning September 19th. In addition, updated league rosters and the Top 5 Overall team rosters will be sent the weeks of September 24th and October 29th.
- ◆ Fax service available. Call 1-888-676-2248 for details.

COST TO PLAY

- ◆ \$89.95 for an entry by August 11, 2001.
- ◆ \$99.95 for an entry after August 11, 2001.
- ◆ \$20 per team for standings to be mailed every week.
- ◆ \$20 per team for standings to be mailed to an additional address every week.
- ◆ There is no charge to make roster changes via the Internet. There is, however, a \$2 surcharge per team each time changes are made via phone, fax, mail, email, or voice mail.

ENTRY DEADLINES

- ◆ Phone, fax, and Internet entries must be received by 9 PM CT on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2001.
- ◆ Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than September 8, 2001, and received no later than Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

All values in 000's. Positions and values, as listed here, remain the same all season. N/A indicates that player was not on a team as of May 3, 2001.

KICKERS			QUARTERBACKS (CONT)			RUNNING BACKS (CONT)			TIGHT ENDS (CONT)			WIDE RECEIVERS (CONT)			DEFENSE/SPECIAL TEAMS (CONT)		
ID	Player	Tm Val	ID	Player	Tm Val	ID	Player	Tm Val	ID	Player	Tm Val	ID	Player	Tm Val	ID	Player	Val
1	LONGWELL, RYAN	GB 3020	132	BANKS, TONY	DAL 2880	247	CENTERS, LARRY	N/A 1570	426	BECHT, ANTHONY	NYJ 1120	549	MORRIS, SYLVESTER	KC 1840	810	NEW YORK (A)	2330
2	VANDERJAGT, MIKE	IND 2950	133	CUNNINGHAM, RAND.	N/A 2850	248	MURRELL, ADRIAN	WAS 1530	427	COATES, BEN	BAL 1110	550	BROWN, TROY	NE 1840	811	SEATTLE	2300
3	ANDERSON, GARY	MIN 2940	134	COUCH, TIM	CLE 2710	249	WARREN, CHRIS	PHI 1500	428	MCCEE, TONY	CIN 1100	551	SMALL, TORRANCE	PHI 1780	812	DENVER	2220
4	DEL GRECO, AL	N/A 2880	135	BROOKS, AARON	NO 2680	250	EDWARDS, ROBERT	NE 1480	429	LAFLEUR, DAVID	DAL 1080	552	MCDANIEL, JEREMY	BUF 1780	813	JACKSONVILLE	2190
5	GRAMATICA, MARTIN	TB 2870	136	HARBAUGH, JIM	DET 2620	251	CHAPMAN, DOUG	MIN 1420	430	MITCHELL, PETE	NYG 1080	553	PRICE, PEERLESS	BUF 1760	814	DALLAS	2130
6	MARE, OLINDO	MIA 2870	137	FREROTTE, GUS	DEN 2090	252	HEARTS, GARRISON	SF 1360	431	WIGGINS, JERMAINE	NE 1040	554	ISMAIL, QADRY	BAL 1700	815	KANSAS CITY	2100
7	STOVER, MATT	BAL 2840	138	HASSELBECK, MATT	SEA 1950	253	BEASLEY, FRED	SF 1360	432	BRUENER, MARK	PIT 1000	555	WARD, DEDRIC	MIA 1690	816	ST. LOUIS	2080
8	CHRISTIE, STEVE	BUF 2800	139	SMITH, AKILI	CIN 1720	254	HOARD, LEROY	N/A 1350	433	BJORNSON, ERIC	RAI 1000	556	GREEN, JACQUEZ	TB 1670	817	DETROIT	2050
9	ELAM, JASON	DEN 2750	140	GRAHAM, KENT	PIT 1710	255	HUNTLEY, RICHARD	PIT 1310	434	MCWILLIAMS, JOHNNY	MIN 1000	557	STOKES, J.J.	SF 1650	818	GREEN BAY	1930
10	HOLLIS, MIKE	JAC 2740	141	MATTHEWS, SHANE	CHI 1630	256	ENIS, CURTIS	CLE 1280	435	CHAMBERLAIN, BYRON	MIN 1000	558	WARD, HINES	PIT 1650	819	WASHINGTON	1930
11	JANKOWSKI, SEBASTIAN	RAI 2700	142	O'DONNELL, NEIL	TEN 1620	257	RHETT, ERRICT	CLE 1200	436	HARDY, TERRY	ARZ 1000	559	JEFFERS, PATRICK	CAR 1600	820	BUFFALO	1730
12	AKERS, DAVID	PHI 2690	143	HUARD, BROCK	SEA 1590	258	BENNETT, DONNELL	KC 1200	437	SHEA, AARON	CLE 1000	560	KENNISON, EDDIE	CHI 1550	821	ATLANTA	1730
13	VINATIERI, ADAM	NE 2680	144	MILLER, JIM	CHI 1570	259	SCHLESINGER, CORY	DET 1200	438	SINCENO, KASEEM	CHI 1000	561	PICKENS, CARL	DAL 1530	822	MINNESOTA	1530
14	WILKINS, JEFF	STL 2640	145	BRISTER, BUBBY	KC 1540	260	COMELLA, GREG	NYG 1200	439	WEAVER, JED	MIA 1000	562	THRASH, JAMES	PHI 1510	823	INDIANAPOLIS	1480
15	SEDER, TIM	DAL 2600	146	HUARD, DAMON	NE 1490	261	FAZANDE, JERMAINE	SD 1160	440	CLARK, DESMOND	DEN 1000	563	SHEPHERD, LESLIE	MIA 1490	824	CAROLINA	1390
16	BROWN, KRIS	PIT 2560	147	LUCAS, RAY	MIA 1490	262	WATSON, JUSTIN	STL 1140	441	MILLI, ITULA	SEA 1000	564	JETT, JAMES	RAI 1490	825	CHICAGO	1310
17	HANSON, JASON	DET 2540	148	LEWIS, JEFF	CAR 1410	263	KIRBY, TERRY	RAI 1140	442	GOODWIN, HUNTER	MIA 1000	565	HATCHETTE, MATTHEW	MIN 1480	826	NEW ENGLAND	1280
18	HALL, JOHN	NYJ 2490	149	LEAF, RYAN	TB 1350	264	LINTON, JONATHAN	BUF 1100				566	RISON, ANDRE	RAI 1470	827	SAN FRANCISCO	1170
19	ANDERSEN, MORTON	ATL 2380	150	PENNINGTON, CHAD	NYJ 1350	265	MITCHELL, BRIAN	PHI 1100				567	MOORE, HERMAN	DET 1430	828	SAN DIEGO	1000
20	BRIEN, DOUG	N/A 2380				266	ANDERS, KIMBLE	N/A 1080				568	ENGRAM, BOBBY	CHI 1430	829	CINCINNATI	1000
21	CARNEY, JOHN	N/A 2250				267	AL-JABBAR, ABDUL-KARIM	IND 1070				569	FRYAR, IRVING	WAS 1410	830	ARIZONA	1000
22	PETERSON, TODD	KC 2240				268	BATES, MARIO	DET 1060				570	MAYES, DERRICK	SEA 1400	831	CLEVELAND	1000
23	RICHEY, WADE	SD 2240				269	JOHNSON, J.J.	MIA 1030				571	POOLE, KEITH	NO 1400			
24	NEDNEY, JOE	TEN 2100	201	FAULK, MARSHALL	STL 6670	270	CROCKETT, ZACK	RAI 1000				572	MCKNIGHT, JAMES	DAL 1400			
25	EDINGER, PAUL	CHI 2020	202	JAMES, EDGERIN	IND 6630	271	THOMAS, RODNEY	TEN 1000				573	BOOKER, MARTY	CHI 1390			
26	KASAY, JOHN	CAR 2000	203	GEORGE, EDDIE	TEN 5260	272	HOLCOMBE, ROBERT	STL 1000				574	PATHON, JEROME	IND 1380			
27	DALUISO, BRAD	NYG 1780	204	MARTIN, CURTIS	NYJ 4630	273	HICKS, SKIP	WAS 1000				575	MCDUFFIE, O.J.	MIA 1350			
28	CONWAY, BRETT	WAS 1750	205	WATERS, RICKY	SEA 4600	274	CHANCEY, ROBERT	N/A 1000				576	DWIGHT, TIM	SD 1350			
29	LINDELL, RYAN	SEA 1690	206	TAYLOR, FRED	JAC 4480	275	CLOUD, MIKE	KC 1000				577	THIGPEN, YANCEY	N/A 1310			
30	BLANCHARD, CARY	ARZ 1620	207	SMITH, EMMITT	DAL 4290	276	MONTGOMERY, JOE	NYG 1000				578	DYSON, KEVIN	TEN 1310			
31	RACKERS, NEIL	CIN 1380	208	LEWIS, JAMAL	BAL 4250	277	HOOPER, BRAD	CAR 1000				579	BURRESS, PLAXICO	PIT 1300			
32	HALL, JEFF	NO 1140	209	SMITH, ROBERT	N/A 4140	278	ALEXANDER, SHAUN	SEA 1000				580	ANTHONY, REIDEL	TB 1280			
33	DAWSON, PHIL	CLE 1040	210	DAVIS, STEPHEN	WAS 3950	279	CANIDATE, TRUNG	STL 1000				581	WILKINS, TERRENCE	IND 1270			
34	MURRAY, EDDIE	N/A 1010	211	DILLON, COREY	CIN 3870	280	MORTON, CHAD	NO 1000				582	NORTHCUIT, DENNIS	CLE 1270			
			212	GARNER, CHARLIE	RAI 3850	281	MOREAU, FRANK	KC 1000				583	LEWIS, JERMAINE	BAL 1260			
			213	BETTS, JEROME	PIT 3620	282	MACK, STACEY	JAC 1000				584	EDWARDS, TROY	PIT 1220			
			214	DUNN, WARRICK	TB 3590	283	WILLIAMS, MOE	MIN 1000				585	COLES, LAVERAUNES	NYJ 1220			
			215	ANDERSON, JAMAL	ATL 3520	284	KEATON, CURTIS	CIN 1000				586	LOCKETT, KEVIN	KC 1210			
			216	WILLIAMS, RICKY	NO 3510	285	BYNUM, KENNY	SD 1000				587	PATTEN, DAVID	CLE 1210			
			217	STEWART, JAMES T	DET 3410	286	BENNETT, BRANDON	CIN 1000				588	REED, JAKE	MIN 1200			
			218	DAVIS, TERRELL	DEN 3300							589	TAYLOR, TRAVIS	BAL 1190			
			219	BARBER, TIKI	NYG 3130							590	HAWKINS, COURTNEY	PIT 1170			
			220	SMITH, LAMAR	MIA 2990							591	SIMMONS, TONY	NE 1160			
			221	WHEATLEY, TYRONE	RAI 2760							592	SANDERS, CHRIS	TEN 1150			
			222	GREEN, AHMAN	GB 2730							593	JACKSON, WILLIE	NO 1000			
			223	ANDERSON, MIKE	DEN 2600							594	JOHNSON, PAT	BAL 1000			
			224	STALEY, DUCE	PHI 2560							595	JUREVICIUS, JOE	NYG 1000			
			225	ALSTOTT, MIKE	TB 2550							596	GREEN, E.G.	IND 1000			
			226	PRENTICE, TRAVIS	CLE 2410							597	BRADFORD, COREY	GB 1000			
			227	BIKABUTUKA, TIM	CAR 2280							598	CHIAVERINI, DARRIN	CLE 1000			
			228	DAYNE, RON	NYG 2260							599	MCGARITY, WANE	DAL 1000			
			229	PITTMAN, MICHAEL	ARZ 2240							600	SOWARD, R. JAY	JAX 1000			
			230	HOLMES, PRIEST	KC 2200							601	PINKSTON, TODD	PHI 1000			
			231	FAULK, KEVIN	NE 2140							602	DAWSON, JA JUAN	CLE 1000			
			232	ALLEN, JAMES	CHI 2100							603	FARMER, DANNY	CIN 1000			
			233	LEVENS, DORSEY	GB 2020							604	STREETS, TAI	SF 1000			
			234	SMITH, ANTOWAIN	BUF 2010												
			235	SANDERS, BARRY	N/A 2000												
			236	MORRIS, SAMMY	BUF 1960												
			237	BRISAN, SHAWN	BUF 1930												
			238	REDMOND, J.R.	NE 1900												
			239	KAUFMAN, NAPOLEON	N/A 1870												
			240	JONES, THOMAS	ARZ 1800												
			241	RICHARDSON, TONY	KC 1720												
			242	AUTRY, DARNELL	PHI 1710												
			243	FLETCHER, TERRELL	SD 1700												
			244	GARY, OLANDIS	DEN 1690												
			245	ALLEN, TERRY	NO 1620												
			246	ANDERSON, RICHIE	NYJ 1600												

2001 DRAFT CHOICES

ID	Pos	Player	Tm	Val
151	QB	VICK, MICHAEL	ATL	2000
152	QB	BREES, DREW	SD	1800
153	QB	CARTER, QUINCY	DAL	1800
154	QB	TUASOPO, MARQUES	RAI	1800
287	RB	TOMLINSON, LADANIAN	SD	2000
288	RB	MCALLISTER, DEUCE	NO	2000
289	RB	BENNETT, MICHAEL	MIN	2000
290	RB	THOMAS, ANTHONY	CHI	1800
291	RB	JORDAN, LAMONT	NYJ	1800
292	RB	HENRY, TRAVIS	BUF	1800
293	RB	JACKSON, JAMES	CLE	1600
294	RB	BARLOW, KEVAN	SF	1600
295	RB	EVANS, HEATH	SEA	1600
296	RB	MINOR, TRAVIS	MIA	1600
443	TE	HEAP, TODD	BAL	1400
444	TE	CRUMPLER, ALGE	ATL	1200
445	TE	BREWER, SEAN	CIN	1000
446	TE	MEIER, SHAD	TEN	1000
605	WR	TERRELL, DAVID	CHI	2000
606	WR	ROBINSON, KOREN	SEA	2000
607	WR	GARDNER, ROD	WAS	2000
608	WR	MOSS, SANTANA	NYJ	2000
609	WR	MITCHELL, FREDDIE	PHI	2000
610	WR	WAYNE, REGGIE	IND	2000
611	WR	MORGAN, QUINCY	CLE	1800
612	WR	JOHNSON, CHAD	CIN	1800
613	WR	FERGUSON, ROBERT	GB	1800
614	WR	CHAMBERS, CHRIS	MIA	1800
615	WR	SMITH, STEVE	CAR	1600
616	WR	MINNIS, MARVIN	KC	1600

DEFENSE/SPECIAL TEAMS

ID	Player	Val
801	BALTIMORE	3000
802	TENNESSEE	2890
803	TAMPA BAY	2840
804	MIAMI	2770
805	PITTSBURGH	2710
806	NEW YORK (N)	2640
807	OAKLAND	2610
808	NEW ORLEANS	2530
809	PHILADELPHIA	2360

REFER A FRIEND AND
RECEIVE A \$15 CREDIT!

Value for unlisted players
is \$1,500,000.

Players not listed on this
page, if selected, must
be placed on the bench
until Week 2.

To pay with check or money order, mail your entry and payment to CDM Fantasy Football/CDM Inc., 11756 Borman Dr., Suite 220, St. Louis, MO 63146-4133.
Mailed entries must be postmarked by Saturday, September 8, 2001, and received no later than Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

I. Team Owner Information			II. Starting Team				III. Bench		
Name		\$65	Pos	Id	Name	Value	Id	Name	Value
Team Name			K		TE		1		
Address			K		TE		2		
City	St.	Zip	K		WR		3		
Phone									

EDITOR'S LETTER

The NFL 2001 puts on a happier face.

Dear *Street & Smith's Pro Football* reader:

What a difference a year makes.

When we last convened on this page, our report was nearly as much a reflected police blotter as it was previews and predictions for the 2000 season. Much has changed since, largely for the better.

For one, Ray Lewis—the excellent Baltimore Ravens linebacker and an icon with at least local fans—was a knee-deep suspect in a murder investigation following a bizarre incident immediately after Super Bowl XXXV in Atlanta.

Lewis was acquitted and—wonder of wonders—helped lead his team to a blowout victory in the Super Bowl.

For another, consider Kerry Collins of the New York Giants. There were no Class A felonies haunting him at this time last year. Just the fans' image of a guy boozing away great talent after fits, starts and failure in Charlotte, then New Orleans. But he figured out the reflection in his glass, and didn't like what he saw.

Collins acquitted himself brilliantly, leading the Giants—wonder of wonders—to the Super Bowl. And we know the rest of that story, taken in this context.

How I love irony. The original I-Man (Will Shakespeare, not Don Imus) could not have created such irony. But as Imus would say, "You can't make this stuff up."

Collins and Lewis are back, and clashed. On the field, Lewis won. Overall, Collins clearly won. And the recovering Kerry is "Back from the brink," as we've headlined our feature, beginning on page 28. Lenn Robbins has written a powerful piece that speaks for itself. I commend it to your attention.

And we've got other strong, uh, stuff. To wit:

"The Super Bowl sideshow," a showpiece by Pete Williams on all the hoopla and hype surrounding the game. It's an appetizing read, as you'll see, beginning on page 34. The only difference between the hoopla/hype of the Super Bowl and the Kentucky Derby is that the game takes three-plus hours, including rollout of some of the best/worst commercials on the planet. The race takes little more than two minutes (1:59 4/5 this year)—without commercial interruption.

We also take a good look at you, the people who pay the freight. The NFL fans. Based on a survey by G. Scott Thomas, we show that fans in the Midwest are the best, most loyal of all. And despite the not unexpectedly dreadful performance of the "new" Cleveland Browns, their fans are Super Bowl in every way. Please see page 46.

Then we have our XFL report, a first-time review of that wonderful new league. Well, here's the deal: our review was nipped in the bud by the league's demise, and we had to fill the space somehow. So we decided to appropriately memorialize it in a first-ever *Street & Smith's* editorial. It may be found on page 60.

As always, there's much more, of course. You have only to review the contents. And, we hope, enjoy!



Mike Kallay,
Executive Editor

Street & Smith's

June 2001

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Sales Office: 342 Madison Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10017.

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Customer service:

For back issues or to locate a Street & Smith's magazine sales outlet near you, please call:
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On Deck:

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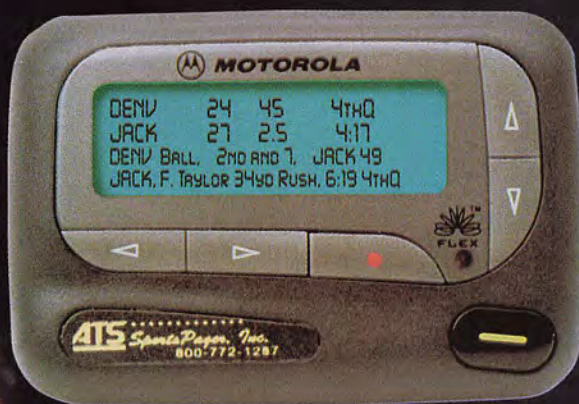
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Answer:

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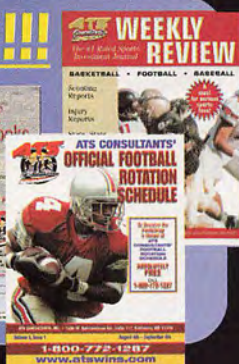
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Street & Smith's

PRO FOOTBALL

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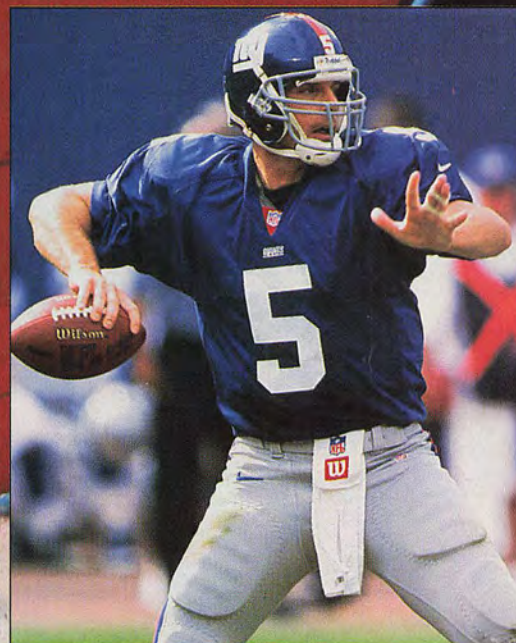
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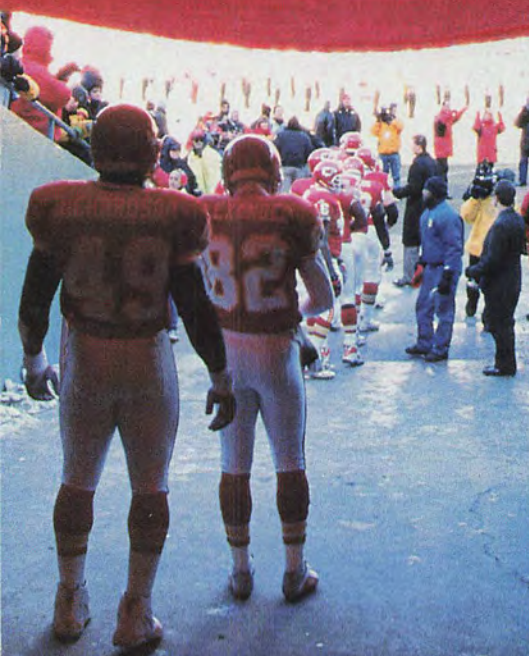
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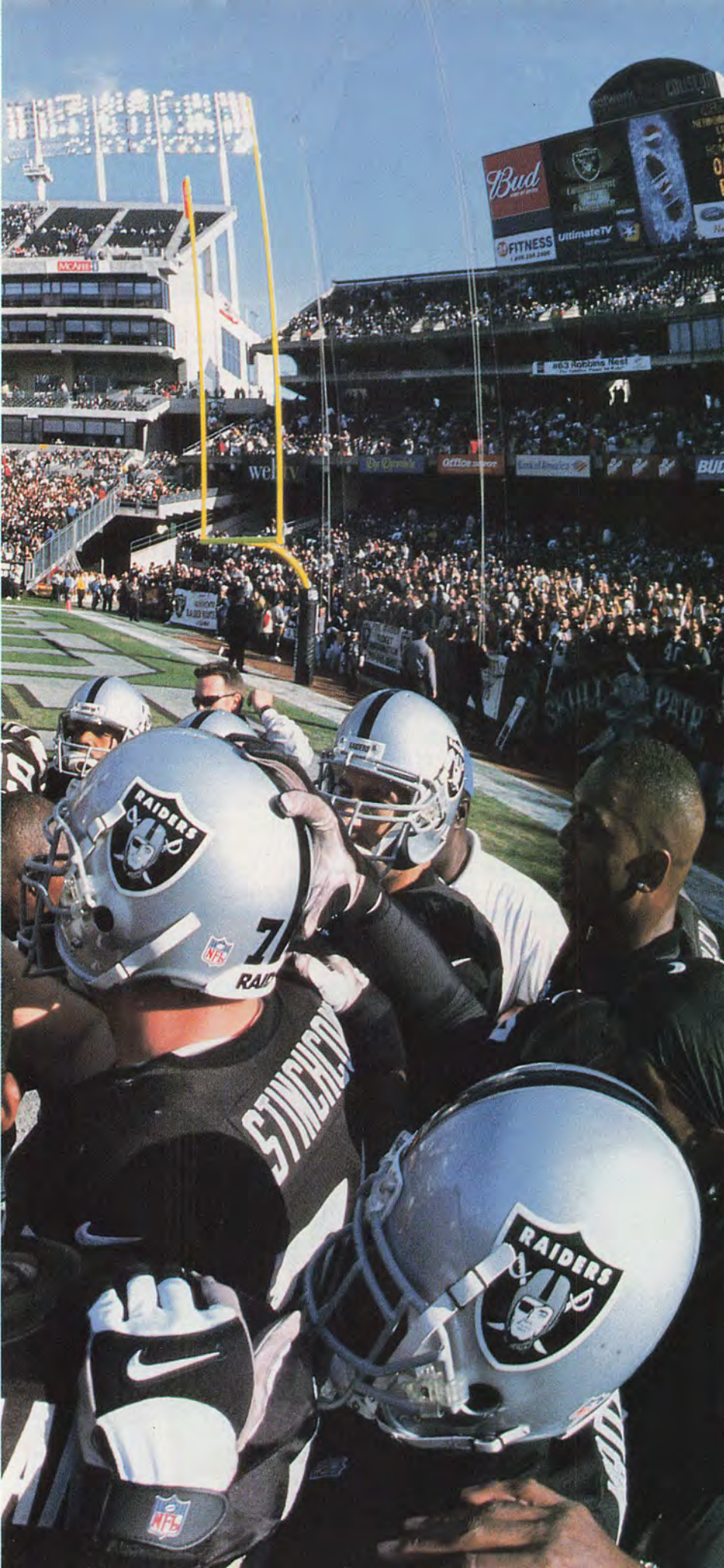
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PREVIOUS PAGE—CHIEFS TUNNEL, STEELER FANS, COLLINS: JOE ROBBINS; **SUPER BOWL HALFTIME:** All Sport, U.S.A.

THIS PAGE—Joe Robbins

NUMBERS

LAST SEASON'S
STATS REVEAL
SOME SURPRISING
DISCOVERIES

By STATS Inc.

TO AIR IS DIVINE



Peyton Manning threw for an NFL-best 4,413 yards last season, but more than 1,500 of those came in the form of "YAC," or yards gained after the catch. Which passer, we wanted to know, threw for the most "air yards," or yards gained through the air, excluding yards after the catch? Lo and behold, it was again Manning on top. Here's a list of the quarterbacks who threw for the most air yards last season:

Most air yards, 2000

Peyton Manning, Ind	2,834
Daunte Culpepper, Min	2,621
Elvis Grbac, KC	2,525
Mark Brunell, Jax	2,358
Jeff Garcia, SF	2,263

As it turns out, the 1,500 YAC in Manning's total passing yards weren't inordinately high; Culpepper and Grbac both had their receivers pick up at least that many yards after the catch. But Manning, who led the league with 357 completions, threw completions that totaled more than 2,800 yards downfield, with 21 of his completions traveling 20 yards or more in the air.

Garcia and the 49ers, meanwhile, did something impressive last year. Garcia threw for 2,263 air yards, fifth-most in the league, and his receivers gained a league-high 2,015 yards after the catch. With the unheralded Garcia throwing to Terrell Owens and Jerry Rice, the 49ers' passing attack was quite prolific—both in the air and after the catch.

Who gains the longest yard?

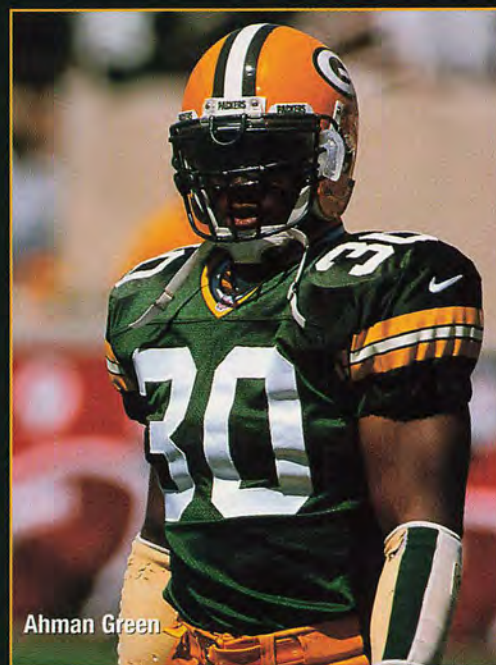
What's the best way to pick up a critical yard on third-and-one or fourth-and-one? Quarterback sneak? Run up the middle? Run outside the tackle? One thing is for sure: The best way to pick up that yard in 2000 was to give the ball to Ahman Green. He leads a list of the most successful short-yardage rushers last season.

Highest first-down percentage, rushes on third-and-one/fourth-and-one, 2000 (minimum eight attempts)

Ahman Green, GB	92.9 (13/14)
Robert Smith, Min	90.0 (9/10)
Daunte Culpepper, Min	88.9 (8/9)
Drew Bledsoe, NE	87.5 (7/8)
Jay Fiedler, Mia	87.5 (7/8)

Picking up that elusive yard isn't all that easy, as shown by the fact that only two rushers with at least eight attempts managed to succeed 90 percent of the time. The Minnesota Vikings almost couldn't go wrong, whether they called a quarterback sneak for Culpepper, or handed off to Smith; the two combined for 17 successes on 19 attempts.

And a special kudos to Bledsoe, the not-so-nimble New England signal-caller, who not only was successful on seven of eight third- or fourth-and-ones last year, but also picked up his *first-ever* NFL rushing TD.



Ahman Green

NORM HALL PHOTO; ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREW BARTHELME

To scramble or not to scramble?

Led by youngsters Donovan McNabb, Daunte Culpepper and Aaron Brooks—along with a revitalized veteran in Rich Gannon—the NFL's quarterback of the millennium is advertised as a mobile, elusive scrambler. No longer, it is said, are pocket passers the league's best QBs.

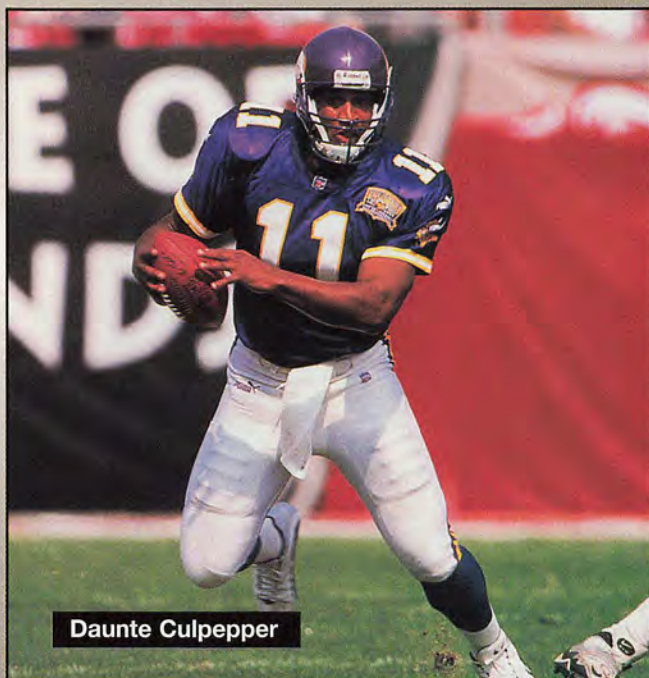
How true is this notion? To check it out we looked at all quarterbacks with at least 100 passes in 2000, and divided them into two groups: those with more than one rush for every 10 passes thrown (the running QBs) and those with less than one rush for every 10 passes (the pocket passers). Here's how each group's passing numbers looked:

Running QBs vs. pocket passers, 2000

	Running QBs	Pocket Passers
Comp Pct.	58.1	58.7
Yards/Att.	6.77	6.84
TD/INT	261/176	350/315
Rating	0.9	78.0

From these numbers it's hard to give the nod to one group over the other. Pocket passers had the edge in completion percentage and yards per attempt, while the running quarterbacks possessed the better passer rating.

Perhaps the most surprising number is this: Stay-at-home QBs actually had a higher interception percentage than those of the running variety. You might think that throwing on the run would lead to more interceptions, but the stay-at-homes had a rate of 3.4 compared to 2.9 for the mobile QBs. Who says McNabb and Culpepper have to learn to stay in the pocket?



Daunte Culpepper

Who has the right touch?

You'd think it would be called the Marshall Faulk Award, or what the NFL should give to the running back who produces the most yards per touch (rushes plus receptions). But last season it wasn't Faulk who led the league, but rather the Jets' pass-catcher extraordinaire Richie Anderson:

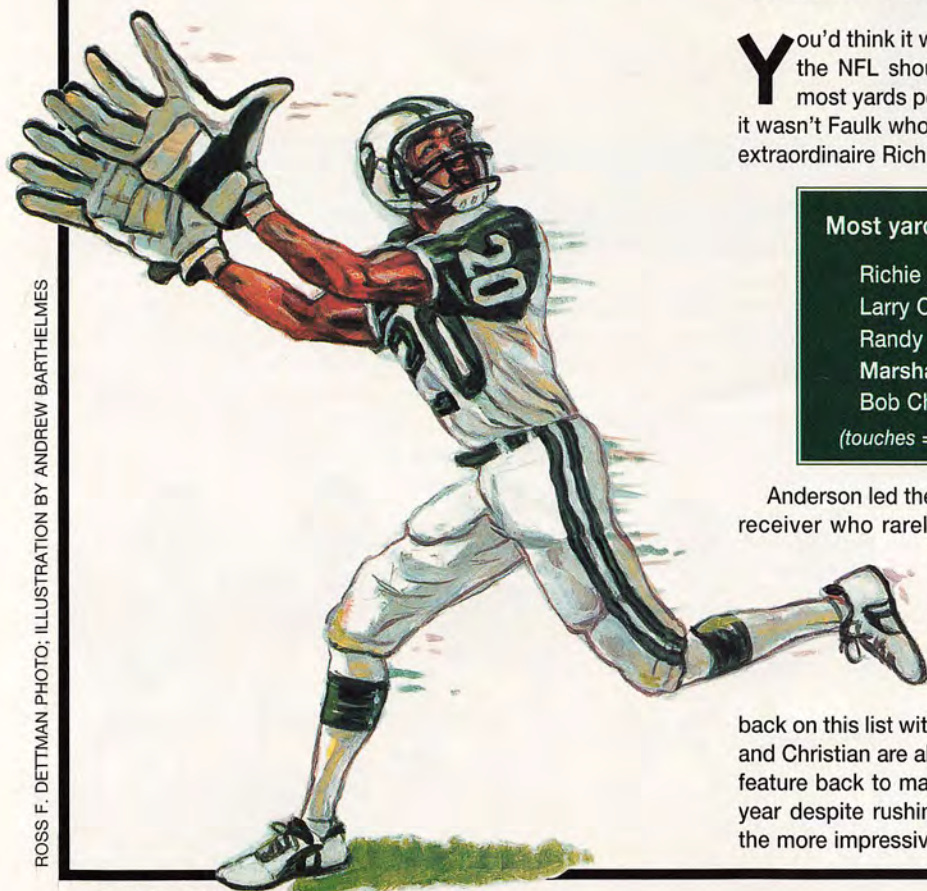
Most yards per touch by running backs, 2000

Richie Anderson, NYJ	8.0
Larry Centers, Wash	7.0
Randy Jordan, Oak	7.0
Marshall Faulk, StL	6.6
Bob Christian, Atl	6.3

(touches = rushes plus receptions)

Anderson led the league largely because he was such an effective receiver who rarely ran the ball. Only 11 players in the league—10 wide receivers and one tight end—topped Anderson's total of 88 catches in 2000. Of course, pass plays—even dump-offs to running backs—will generally gain more yards than running plays.

In fairness to Faulk, he's the only running back on this list with as many as 50 rushes. While Anderson, Centers and Christian are almost exclusively pass catchers, Faulk is the lone feature back to make the list. He averaged 6.6 yards per touch last year despite rushing the ball 253 times, making Marshall's plan all the more impressive.



Offense, anyone?

Was the average St. Louis Rams game in 2000 the highest scoring ever? If you love offensive fireworks, you loved following the 2000 Rams. Consider this: The average NFL game last year saw a total of 41.3 points put on the board. The average Rams game produced a total 63.1 points—three more touchdowns than in an average game.

Only one team in NFL history has averaged a higher total of points plus opponent points in a season. The same Rams franchise, 50 years earlier, holds that honor:

Most combined points plus opp. points per game, season

	Pts/Gm	Opp Pts/Gm	Total
LA Rams, 1950	38.8	25.8	64.6
StL Rams, 2000	33.8	29.4	63.1
NY Yanks, 1950	30.5	30.6	61.1
San Francisco, 1965	30.1	28.7	58.8
Dallas, 1962	28.4	28.7	57.1

Of the five teams on our list, only the 1962 Cowboys failed to have a winning record. The 1950 Yanks and 1965 49ers had winning records but failed to qualify for the postseason. The 1950 Rams, led by Tom Fears, "Crazy Legs" Hirsch and Norm Van Brocklin, advanced to the NFL Championship Game. Appropriately, they lost a high-scoring affair (for those days), 30-28, to Cleveland.

Fifty years later, their mirror image, the Rams of Kurt Warner and Marshall Faulk, would lose to New Orleans in the playoffs by almost the same score, 31-28.

WHO BOOTS IT BEST UNDER PRESSURE?

On September 17 of last season, the Packers' Ryan Longwell hit a 38-yard field goal with three seconds left as Green Bay defeated the Eagles 6-3. On October 15, Longwell connected from 35 yards out with 54 seconds left, giving the Pack a 31-28 win over the 49ers. And in the season finale, Longwell broke the Buccaneers' hearts in overtime as he hit a 22-yarder.

Over the last three seasons, including regular season and post-season, Longwell has been the league's best field goal kicker in "clutch" situations (attempts in the fourth quarter or overtime with his team either tied or trailing by three points or less).



Ryan Longwell

BEST PCT. ON 'CLUTCH' FG ATTEMPTS—SINCE 1998 (includes regular season & playoffs; minimum six attempts)

Ryan Longwell	90.9 (10/11)
Jason Hanson	90.0 (9/10)
David Akers	85.7 (6/7)
John Hall	85.7 (6/7)
Morten Andersen	83.3 (5/6)

Longwell has come a long way since 1997, when he missed a potential game-winner for the Packers in just his second NFL game. The only clutch kick he has missed in the last three years was arguably not his fault, as the Bears' Bryan Robinson blocked his potential game-winner at Lambeau Field in November 1999. No wonder the Packers gave him a \$7.5 million contract in the offseason.

RAVEN-OUS FOR OPTIONS

Where did opposing teams try to run against the Baltimore Ravens?

The numbers are downright grisly: 61 rushing yards per game on 2.7 yards per carry. That's all the Ravens allowed in the 2000 regular season. Did opposing offenses even have a chance against that run defense? Was there a particular spot where the Ravens were weakest?

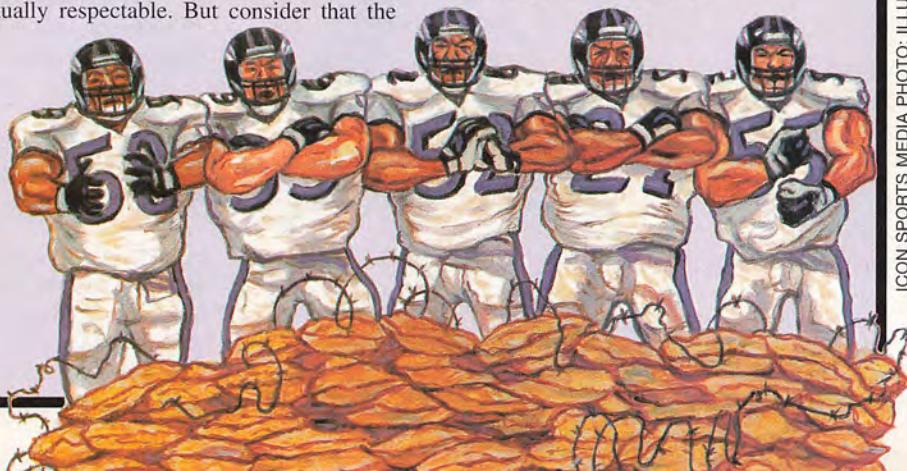
This data excludes aborted plays and kneel-downs, with directions listed from the offense's perspective. "Left side" refers to plays off left guard and off left tackle.

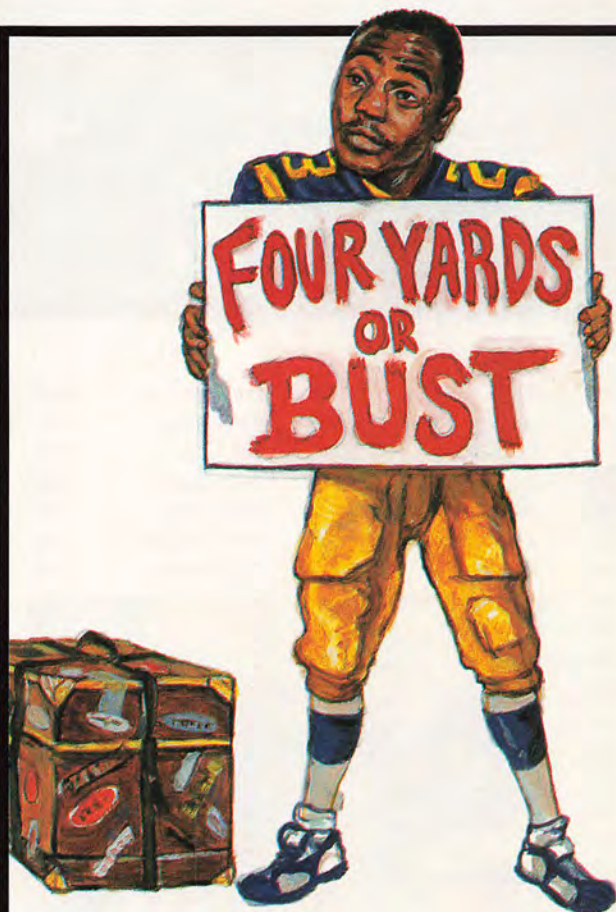
Ravens rush defense by direction, 2000 regular season

	Rushes	Yds	Avg	TD
Left End	41	157	3.83	3
Left Side	77	167	2.17	0
Middle	125	384	3.01	0
Right Side	73	195	2.67	1
Right End	29	80	2.76	1

If the Ravens' run defense did have a weakness, it was running plays wide to its right side (the offense's left end), away from defensive line standouts Tony Siragusa and Michael McCrary. Three of the five rushing touchdowns Baltimore allowed went to that area, and the yards-per-carry average was actually respectable. But consider that the

Ravens stuffed 11 of the 41 rushes to the offense's left end—i.e., they stopped the ball carriers for losses. If you wanted to run against Baltimore last year, you could gamble on running wide to the left. You might gain some yards, but you might just as well be looking at second-and-12.





For an offensive coordinator, plays that gain big chunks of yards are exciting, but when it's first-and-10 you're content if your running back can simply pick up four yards. Indeed, if you could rush for four yards on every play, you'd move the ball all day long.

Last year, two running backs with at least 100 carries gained four or more yards on more than half their carries. We didn't necessarily find the league's biggest names among the five biggest gainers:

Backs with highest percentage of rushes gaining four yards or more, 2000

(minimum 100 rushes)

Marshall Faulk, StL	50.6
Tony Richardson, KC	50.3
Priest Holmes, Bal	48.9
Tiki Barber, NYG	46.5
Robert Smith, Min	46.1

The top two names on the list offer quite a contrast. You've got the Rams' glamorous Faulk, he of the 26 touchdowns and the speed to line up at wide receiver. Then there's Kansas City's bruising, 235-pound Richardson. Richardson had only seven rushes of more than 15 yards in 2000—compared to Faulk's 24 rushes of 16 or more—but Richardson was almost as reliable in picking up at least four yards per carry.

Do the Bucs buckle late?

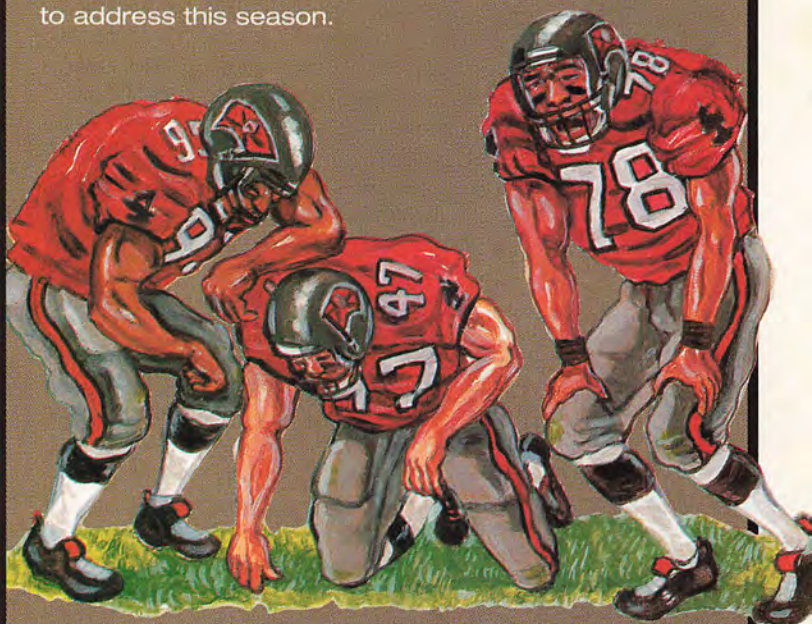
Did Tampa Bay's defense get worn down over the course of games—or even halves—last year?

There's no doubt the Buccaneers had a pretty good defense in 2000. Tampa's defensive unit ranked ninth in the league and sent four players to the Pro Bowl. Yet there was a sense among some observers that the Buc defense was a little small, too reliant on speed and, therefore, susceptible to being worn down. The team's defensive stats by quarter bear this out:

Tampa Bay defensive stats by quarter, 2000

	Yds Allowed/Play	Pts Allowed
1st Qtr	4.10	39
2nd Qtr	4.61	79
3rd Qtr	4.38	53
4th Qtr	5.14	92

The numbers show that the Bucs' defense weakened over halves of games last year. Tampa Bay's 38 first-quarter points allowed was the league's fourth-lowest figure. The Bucs allowed more than twice that many, and an additional half-yard more per play, in the second quarter. The 53 third-quarter points allowed was 11th-best in the league, but the numbers in the fourth quarter dropped off considerably. Figure in the fact that the Bucs blew fourth-quarter leads in two of their losses, and you know they have an issue to address this season.



TODAY'S PLAYERS SET THEIR SIGHTS
ON THE GAME'S ALL-TIME LEADERS

TARGETS



By STATS Inc.

active players in 2000 in caps

TOUCHDOWNS

JERRY RICE	187
EMMITT SMITH	156
Marcus Allen	145
Jim Brown	126
Walter Payton	125
CRIS CARTER	124
John Riggins	116
Lenny Moore	113
Barry Sanders	109
Don Hutson	105
Steve Largent	101
Franco Harris	100
Eric Dickerson	96



EMMITT SMITH

Jim Taylor	93
Bobby Mitchell	91
Tony Dorsett	91
Leroy Kelly	90
Charley Taylor	90
TIM BROWN	90
RICKY WATTERS	90
MARSHALL FAULK	89
Don Maynard	88
IRVING FRYAR	88
ANDRE REED	88
THURMAN THOMAS	88
Lance Alworth	87
Paul Warfield	86
Ottis Anderson	86
Tommy McDonald	85
Mark Clayton	85
Herschel Walker	84

ANDRE RISON	84
Art Powell	82
Pete Johnson	82
Harold Carmichael	79
James Brooks	79
Frank Gifford	78
Steve Van Buren	77
Fred Biletnikoff	77
Bill Brown	76
Bob Hayes	76
O.J. Simpson	76
Harold Jackson	76
Chuck Foreman	76
James Lofton	76
TERRY ALLEN	76
Nat Moore	75
John David Crow	74
Chuck Muncie	74
Earl Campbell	74

POINTS

GARY ANDERSON	2,059
George Blanda	2,002
MORTEN ANDERSEN	1,938
Norm Johnson	1,736
Nick Lowery	1,711
Jan Stenerud	1,699
EDDIE MURRAY	1,594
AL DEL GRECO	1,584
Pat Leahy	1,470
Jim Turner	1,439
Matt Bahr	1,422
Mark Moseley	1,382
Jim Bakken	1,380
Fred Cox	1,365
Lou Groza	1,349
Jim Breech	1,246
PETE STOYANOVICH	1,236
Chris Bahr	1,213
Kevin Butler	1,208
STEVE CHRISTIE	1,174
Gino Cappelletti	1,130
JERRY RICE	1,130
Ray Werschling	1,122
JOHN CARNEY	1,088
Don Cockroft	1,080
Garó Yepremian	1,074
Bruce Gossett	1,031
MATT STOVER	1,019
Jeff Jaeger	1,008
Sam Baker	977
Greg Davis	962

TOUCHDOWN PASSES

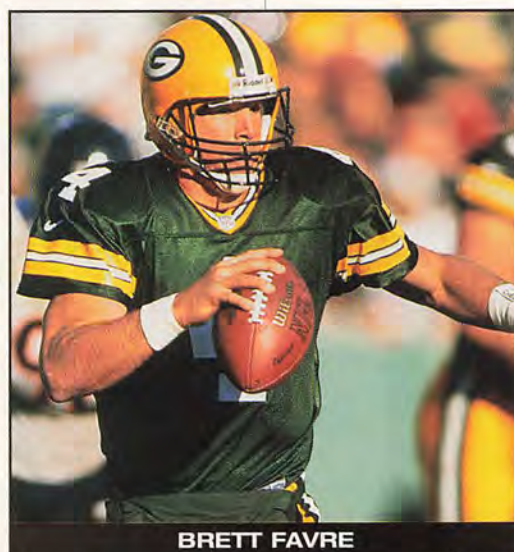
Dan Marino	420
Fran Tarkenton	342
John Elway	300
WARREN MOON	291
Johnny Unitas	290
Joe Montana	273
Dave Krieg	261
Sonny Jurgensen	255
BRETT FAVRE	255
Dan Fouts	254
Boomer Esiason	247
John Hadl	244
Len Dawson	239
Jim Kelly	237
George Blanda	236
Steve Young	232
VINNY TESTAVERDE	226
John Brodie	214
Y.A. Tittle	212
Terry Bradshaw	212
Jim Hart	209
RANDALL CUNNINGHAM	204
Jim Everett	203
Roman Gabriel	201
Phil Simms	199
Ken Anderson	197
Bobby Layne	196
Norm Snead	196
Joe Ferguson	196
Steve DeBerg	196
Ken Stabler	194
Bob Griese	192

PASSING YARDAGE

Dan Marino	61,361
John Elway	51,475
WARREN MOON	49,325
Fran Tarkenton	47,003
Dan Fouts	43,040
Joe Montana	40,551
Johnny Unitas	40,239
Dave Krieg	38,147
Boomer Esiason	37,920
VINNY TESTAVERDE	36,307
Jim Kelly	35,467
Jim Everett	34,837

BRETT FAVRE	34,706
Jim Hart	34,665
Steve DeBerg	34,241
John Hadl	33,503
Phil Simms	33,462
Steve Young	33,124
TROY AIKMAN	32,942

Fran Tarkenton	3,686
Joe Montana	3,409
Dan Fouts	3,297
Dave Krieg	3,105
BRETT FAVRE	2,997
Boomer Esiason	2,969
TROY AIKMAN	2,898



BRETT FAVRE

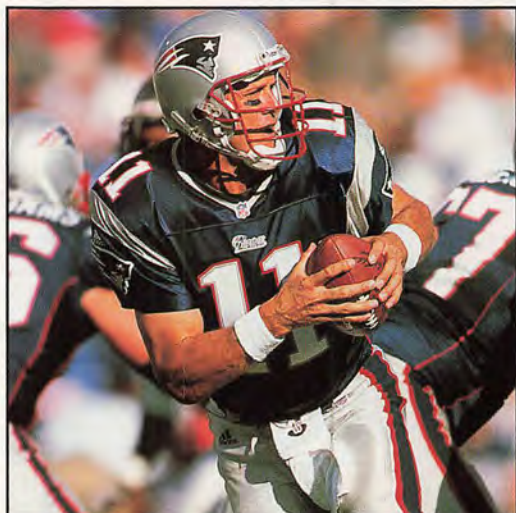
Ken Anderson	32,838
Sonny Jurgensen	32,224
John Brodie	31,548
Norm Snead	30,797
Joe Ferguson	29,817
Roman Gabriel	29,444
R. CUNNINGHAM	29,406
DREW BLEDSOE	29,257
Len Dawson	28,711
Y.A. Tittle	28,339
Ron Jaworski	28,190
Terry Bradshaw	27,989
Ken Stabler	27,938
Craig Morton	27,908
Joe Namath	27,663
JEFF GEORGE	27,434
George Blanda	26,920
Steve Grogan	26,886
Bobby Layne	26,768

VINNY TESTAVERDE	2,897
Steve DeBerg	2,874
Jim Kelly	2,874
Jim Everett	2,841
Johnny Unitas	2,830
Steve Young	2,667
Ken Anderson	2,654
Jim Hart	2,593
Phil Simms	2,576
DREW BLEDSOE	2,504
John Brodie	2,469
Sonny Jurgensen	2,433
R. CUNNINGHAM	2,375
Joe Ferguson	2,369
Roman Gabriel	2,366
John Hadl	2,363
JIM HARBAUGH	2,305
Norm Snead	2,276
JEFF GEORGE	2,275
Ken Stabler	2,270
Ron Jaworski	2,187
Len Dawson	2,136
Y.A. Tittle	2,118
Ken O'Brien	2,110
Craig Morton	2,053

PASS COMPLETIONS

Dan Marino	4,967
John Elway	4,123
WARREN MOON	3,988

LEFT TO RIGHT: AMERICAN IMAGE MASTERS; CHUCK RYDLEWSKI



DREW BLEDSOE

Joe Theismann	2,044	THURMAN THOMAS	12,074
Terry Bradshaw	2,025	John Riggins	11,352
Tommy Kramer	2,012	O.J. Simpson	11,236
Archie Manning	2,011	RICKY WATTERS	10,325
Bernie Kosar	1,994	Ottis Anderson	10,273
Brian Sipe	1,994	JEROME BETTIS	9,804
Jim Plunkett	1,943	Earl Campbell	9,407
Steve Bartkowski	1,932	Jim Taylor	8,597
Bob Griese	1,926	Joe Perry	8,378
George Blanda	1,911	Earnest Byner	8,261
Joe Namath	1,886	Herschel Walker	8,225
Steve Grogan	1,879	Roger Craig	8,189
CHRIS CHANDLER	1,860	Gerald Riggs	8,188
Bobby Hebert	1,839	Larry Csonka	8,081
Neil Lomax	1,817	Freeman McNeil	8,074

RUSHING YARDAGE

Walter Payton	16,726
Barry Sanders	15,269
EMMITT SMITH	15,166
Eric Dickerson	13,259
Tony Dorsett	12,739
Jim Brown	12,312
Marcus Allen	12,243
Franco Harris	12,120



JEROME BETTIS

RECEPTIONS

JERRY RICE	1,281
CRIS CARTER	1,020
ANDRE REED	951
Art Monk	940
IRVING FRYAR	851
TIM BROWN	846
Steve Largent	819
Henry Ellard	814
James Lofton	764
Charlie Joiner	750
Michael Irvin	750
ANDRE RISON	743
Gary Clark	699
LARRY CENTERS	685
HERMAN MOORE	666
Ozzie Newsome	662
Charley Taylor	649
Drew Hill	634
Don Maynard	633
Raymond Berry	631
Rob Moore	628

SHANNON SHARPE	619
TERANCE MATHIS	615
Keith Byars	610
Sterling Sharpe	595
Anthony Miller	595
Harold Carmichael	590
Fred Biletnikoff	589
Marcus Allen	587
Bill Brooks	583
Mark Clayton	582
Ronnie Harmon	581
Brian Blades	581
Harold Jackson	579
Ernest Givins	571
Mark Carrier	569
Lionel Taylor	567
Roger Craig	566
Webster Slaughter	563
Wes Chandler	559
Roy Green	559
Stanley Morgan	557

RECEIVING YARDS

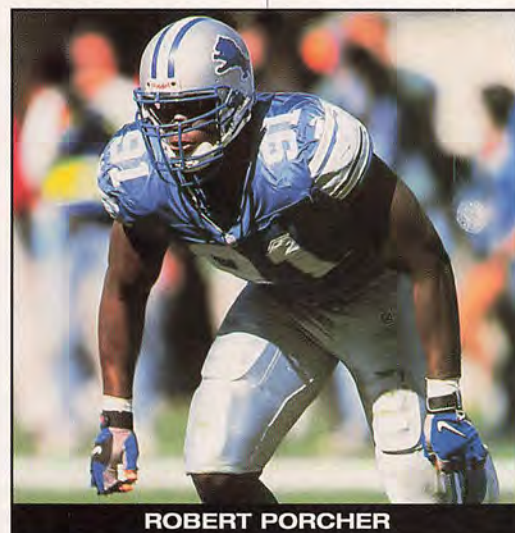
JERRY RICE	19,247
James Lofton	14,004
Henry Ellard	13,777
ANDRE REED	13,198
Steve Largent	13,089
CRIS CARTER	12,962
IRVING FRYAR	12,785
Art Monk	12,721
Charlie Joiner	12,146
TIM BROWN	12,072
Michael Irvin	11,904
Don Maynard	11,834
Gary Clark	10,856
Stanley Morgan	10,716
Harold Jackson	10,372
Lance Alworth	10,266
ANDRE RISON	10,205
Drew Hill	9,831
Rob Moore	9,368
Raymond Berry	9,275
Anthony Miller	9,148
Charley Taylor	9,110
HERMAN MOORE	9,098
Harold Carmichael	8,985
Fred Biletnikoff	8,974
Mark Clayton	8,974
Wes Chandler	8,966
Roy Green	8,965
Mark Duper	8,869
Mark Carrier	8,763
John Stallworth	8,723
Cliff Branch	8,685
Paul Warfield	8,565
TONY MARTIN	8,517
Billy Howton	8,459
Tommy McDonald	8,410
Wesley Walker	8,306
Carroll Dale	8,277
Ernest Givins	8,215

Eric Martin	8,161
Sterling Sharpe	8,134
Webster Slaughter	8,111
Haven Moses	8,091
Art Powell	8,046
TERANCE MATHIS	8,027
Bill Brooks	8,001
Don Hutson	7,991
Tony Hill	7,988
Ozzie Newsome	7,980
Bobby Mitchell	7,954

INTERCEPTIONS

Paul Krause	81
Emlen Tunnell	79
Dick "Night Train" Lane	68
Ken Riley	65
Ronnie Lott	63
Dick LeBeau	62
Dave Brown	62
Emmitt Thomas	58
ROD WOODSON	58
Johnny Robinson	57
Bobby Boyd	57

Lawrence Taylor	132.5
Leslie O'Neal	132.5
Rickey Jackson	128.0
Derrick Thomas	126.5
CLYDE SIMMONS	121.5
JOHN RANDLE	114.0
Sean Jones	113.0
Greg Townsend	109.5
Pat Swilling	107.5
NEIL SMITH	104.5
Jim Jeffcoat	102.5
William Fuller	100.5
Charles Haley	100.5
Andre Tippett	100.0
TRACE ARMSTRONG	98.5
Jacob Green	97.5
Dexter Manley	97.5
Simon Fletcher	97.5
Steve McMichael	95.0
HENRY THOMAS	93.5
Ken Harvey	89.0
Howie Long	84.0
Leonard Marshall	83.5
Charles Mann	83.0



ROBERT PORCHER

Mel Blount	57
Everson Walls	57
EUGENE ROBINSON	57
Pat Fischer	56
Lem Barney	56
Willie Brown	54
DARRELL GREEN	53
ERIC ALLEN	53
Jack Butler	52
Bobby Dillon	52
Jimmy Patton	52
Larry Wilson	52
Mel Renfro	52

SACKS

REGGIE WHITE	198.0
BRUCE SMITH	181.0
Kevin Greene	160.0
Chris Doleman	150.5
Richard Dent	137.5

Lee Williams	82.5
Wayne Martin	82.5
Tim Harris	81.0
Karl Mecklenburg	79.0
Ray Childress	76.5
BRYCE PAUP	75.0
ROBERT PORCHER	74.5
Mark Gastineau	74.0
CORNELIUS BENNETT	71.5
MICHAEL SINCLAIR	70.0
Clay Matthews	69.5
Freddie Joe Nunn	67.5
ROB BURNETT	67.0
Al Baker	65.5
Tony Bennett	64.5
Jeff Bryant	63.0
Michael Cofer	62.5
KEVIN CARTER	62.5
Jumpy Geathers	62.0
MICHAEL STRAHAN	62.0
MICHAEL MCCRARY	61.5

NFL

Reversible quarterbacks and NFL-issued do-rags are just two of the trends awaiting fans this season.

BY DON PIERSON, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Q uarterbacks get more credit than they deserve when they win and more blame than they deserve when they lose.

How about no credit or blame at all? How about treating quarterbacks like reversible practice jerseys? How about pretending quarterbacks are like punters—necessary but interchangeable?

That's the look of the NFL in 2001. With not enough great quarterbacks to go around, all quarterbacks are going around like a merry-go-round.

Trent Dilfer, chastised in Tampa, won a Super Bowl in Baltimore and lived happily ever after—for a month. By the time he returned from Disney World, his locker was cleaned out, and it wasn't sent to the Hall of Fame. Dilfer was on the street, discarded by the Super Bowl champions in favor of Elvis Grbac.

That's the same Elvis Grbac who failed to stir teammates or fans in Kansas City.

"I'm going to take this team to a different level," Grbac says.

Above the Super Bowl?

Doug Flutie was 21-9 as a starter for the Buffalo Bills. The Bills decided he needed to re-apply for the job. He lost out to Rob Johnson.

Flutie resurfaced in San Diego, where his job is to make rookie hotshot Drew Brees appear taller than 6 feet.

Flutie replaced the floundering Ryan Leaf, whose three-year nightmare mercifully ended for all involved. Leaf is now residing in Tampa Bay, as a third-stringer.

The Ravens, who won it all after Dilfer

rescued Tony Banks, figured they can win with just about anybody taking snaps. So they courted Brad Johnson as well as Grbac and decided they would be happy with whomever accepted their offer.

Johnson ended up in Tampa, unseating young Shaun King. If Keyshawn Johnson can't make the difference, maybe Brad Johnson can. Johnson & Johnson, the Band-Aid boys.

The future is now, but not for Troy Aikman in Dallas. Three-time Super Bowl champion quarterbacks used to be carried off on their shields. Aikman fell on his sword, ignominiously cut by the desperate Cowboys, who didn't even have a successor in mind.

Everything is going to be all right, promised Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, but not in 2001. Jones became the NFL's first owner to publicly advise fans before the season even started: "Wait Till Next Year."

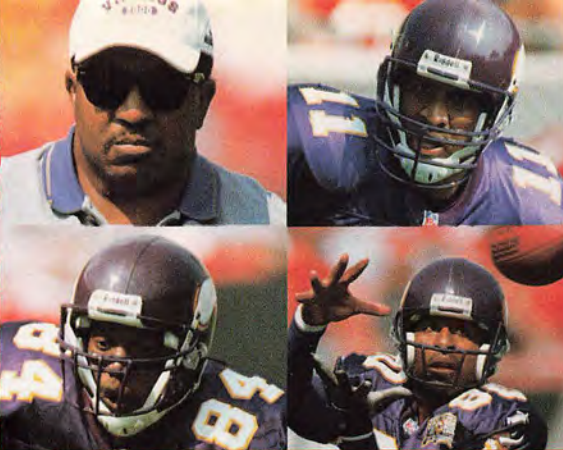
"One year from today, we'll see the effects I'm talking about," Jones says. "In today's NFL, having that type of cap room, you can turn a non-playoff team into a contender. We've seen four teams in the last two years end up in the Super Bowl when they weren't in the playoffs the year before."

Jones signed Banks, the same guy the Rams got rid of just before they won a Super Bowl and the Ravens benched just before they won a Super Bowl. He signed with the Cowboys for one year. That Jones knows his history.

The salary cap gets more credit than it deserves when you win and more blame than it deserves when you lose.

Too soon

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...



THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS

They were there once again, on the brink of greatness, guided to an 11-5 NFC Central Division title by dean of NFL coaches Dennis Green. Then suddenly they were gone once again, humiliated by the New York Giants, 41-0, one game short of the Super Bowl.

Robert Smith retired.

John Randle is playing for Seattle.

Todd Steussie was released.

Dwayne Rudd was signed by Cleveland.

Randy Moss wondered whether he would ever win in Minnesota. But he's back. So is Cris Carter. So is Daunte Culpepper. So is Green. Another year, another cheer, another fear.

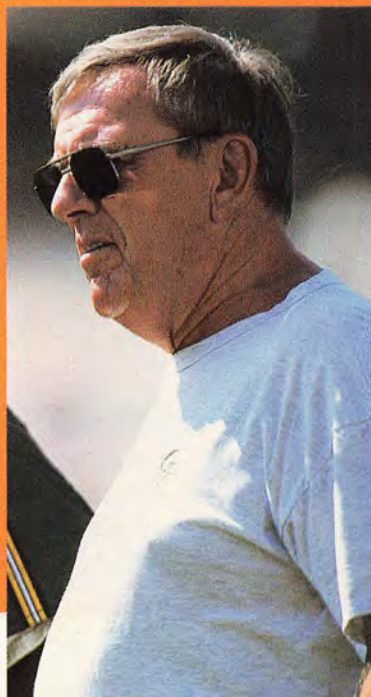
"We'll be better than we were last year," Green says.

GONE...

RON WOLF, Green Bay Packers' general manager, who salvaged a lost franchise, earned his \$2 million-a-year salary, and expressed disgust at his profession for allowing television commentators too much influence in swaying public opinion and deciding such things as Pro Bowl players.

"This is the only business I know where you've got people who really know absolutely nothing about it getting guys into the Pro Bowl," Wolf says. "I'm talking about those commentators. We are judged by people who don't know (expletive) from shinola. They're all over TV on Sunday, on Monday, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. And they know nothing. They just talk. And that's who we're accountable to in this game now."

Wolf, 62, is now consulting.

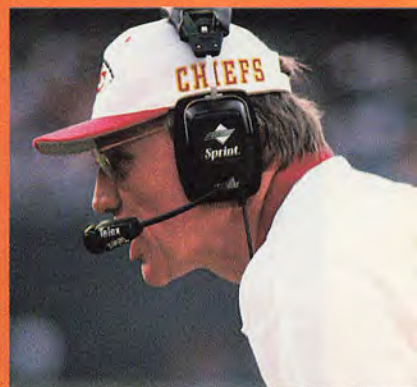


HE'S CHANGED

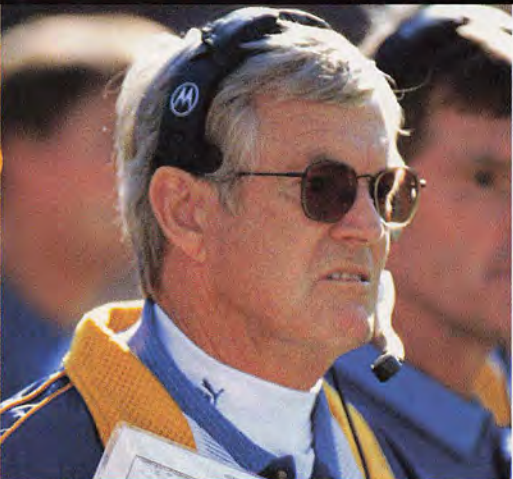
MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER couldn't figure out how anybody could work for Daniel Snyder. Not his style, he said. Owners should own, not meddle. Let the coaches coach.

A \$10 million contract over four years allows for compromise.

At least Snyder admitted that firing Norv Turner wasn't the wisest thing he'd ever done. At least hiring Schottenheimer was Snyder's idea. At least Schottenheimer knows the owner is invested.



HE'S BAAAAACK



DICK VERMEIL got burned out again. This time, he got tired of retirement quicker than last time. Last time, it was 14 years. This time, it was 11 months.

The Kansas City Chiefs lured him back, to the surprise and chagrin of the St. Louis Rams, who now doubt his sincerity.

The Rams extracted a second-round draft choice from the Chiefs for Vermeil. They wanted a first-round pick for Vermeil's favorite quarterback, Trent Green.

"I don't know why I should keep helping them build their team," Vermeil says.

ARRIVED

MATT MILLEN, former Fox commentator, hired as president of the Detroit Lions for \$3 million a year.

At least Millen was drafted by Ron Wolf and the Oakland Raiders in 1980.



NEW COACHES ON THE BLOCK

GREGG WILLIAMS, BUFFALO

His interview blew away new Bills General Manager Tom Donahoe, who was thought to be leaning toward Ravens defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis. Donahoe and Lewis know each other from their days with the Steelers. But Williams, defensive coordinator of the Tennessee Titans, gave Donahoe all the right answers.

MARTY MORNHINWEG, DETROIT ▶

Matt Millen interviewed only the offensive coordinator of the San Francisco 49ers, a job that is a good recommendation in itself. If the 49ers can turn Jeff Garcia into a top-rated passer, then there is hope for Charlie Batch. Maybe Mornhinweg should have brought the 49er trainers and doctors with him.



BUTCH DAVIS, CLEVELAND

He was a great college coach at Miami and seemed willing to accept the demotion to Cleveland. He resurrected a fallen and disgraced program for the Hurricanes. The difference is the Browns never have been alive. Davis must create, not resurrect. He will need more than the two measly years the Browns allowed Chris Palmer.

HERMAN EDWARDS, NEW YORK JETS

Coach of the defensive backs in Tampa, Edwards never has been a coordinator. Nevertheless, he quickly developed a reputation as a bright and promising protégé of Tony Dungy and was going to get a shot somewhere soon. Credit the Jets with grabbing him before somebody else did.

MORE THAN INTERIMS



DICK LEBEAU, CINCINNATI

At 63, LeBeau became the oldest coach to be named head man for the first time. Talk about paying dues. He was an underrated cornerback for the Detroit Lions and an underrated defensive coordinator for years. If his enthusiasm and sincerity don't wear off on his players, the Bengals need new players.

DAVE MCGINNIS, ARIZONA

Anybody who would turn down the Bears for the Cardinals proves he's not avoiding a challenge. The Bears thought he was their man in 1999 before a miscommunication blew up in their red faces. McGinnis went back to work for Vince Tobin, who was fired during the season. The Cardinals didn't exactly turn things around, but McGinnis is willing to keep trying.



THE HOLMGREN TREE

With all due respect to Bill Walsh, who hired Seattle coach Mike Holmgren in San Francisco, has any coach ever had five men he brought into the league work as head coaches at the same time? Holmgren hired



Green Bay's Mike Sherman, Detroit's Marty Mornhinweg, Oakland's Jon Gruden, Philadelphia's Andy Reid and San Francisco's Steve Mariucci. In 1985, Mariucci served part of a season as a quality control coach for John Robinson and the Los Angeles Rams, but it was under Holmgren that Mariucci and the others had their first full-time NFL jobs.

PUT UP OR SHUT UP



◀KEYSHAWN JOHNSON AND WARREN SAPP, TAMPA BAY

The Buccaneers are running out of excuses and time and patience. If this team isn't as talented as the Baltimore Ravens, neither Johnson nor

Sapp would have reason to talk. With Brad Johnson and Simeon Rice joining the mix, it's time to get it together.

RANDY MOSS AND CRIS CARTER, MINNESOTA

They play in the same division as the Bucs, so something has to give. The Vikings knock on the Super Bowl door every year and nobody answers. Moss and Carter have one last chance together. If Carter plays in 2002, he will have stayed a year too long.

COACHES ON THE HOT SEAT

DICK JAURON, CHICAGO

After two years, 11 wins and several false starts with young quarterback Cade McNown, the capable Jauron finds his future ominously linked to potentially the next Ryan Leaf. Jauron admitted he overestimated McNown's progress last year. Now it's make-or-break for both.



DAN REEVES, ATLANTA

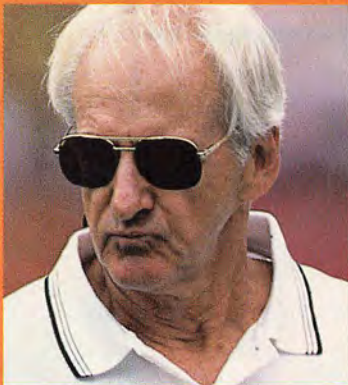
Not many people can understand why Reeves continues to put himself through the grind. That heart medicine ad couldn't be worth the aggravation. The longer he stays, the harder it becomes for Falcon fans to remember they did get to a Super Bowl together.

DAVE CAMPO, DALLAS

Jerry Jones wouldn't be so quick to brag anymore about those 500 candidates out there eager to coach his team. But Chan Gailey got only two years and Campo is not likely to get many favors, even with a depleted roster.

GEORGE SEIFERT, CAROLINA

Seasons of 8-8 and 7-9 aren't what the winningest coach of all time had in mind when he came out of retirement in San Francisco. Now he's behind Vince Lombardi and John Madden and may not get the chance to work his way back up.



MIKE RILEY, SAN DIEGO

New General Manager John Butler got rid of Ryan Leaf, added popular winner Doug Flutie and hired enough help for any coach to extricate himself from a 1-15 season. It already might be too late.

TOM COUGHLIN, JACKSONVILLE

One losing season like last year does not a hot seat make, but if the Jaguars don't bounce back big-time, owner Wayne Weaver might decide Coughlin has taken this team as far as it plans to go with him.

DENNIS GREEN, MINNESOTA

He was 11-5 last year, better than anyone imagined. A 41-0 loss in the NFC title game won't change owner Red McCombs' view of him. But in Minnesota, the dean of NFL coaches is on perpetual trial.

CAROUSEL

ELVIS GRBAC, RAVENS

He completed 59.6 percent of his passes in Kansas City. Trent Dilfer completed 59.3 percent of his passes in Baltimore. Grbac threw touchdown passes on 5.1 percent of his attempts. Dilfer threw touchdown passes on 5.3 percent of his attempts. This is progress? Probably. Grbac throws fewer interceptions.



TONY BANKS, COWBOYS

Beaten out by Dilfer in Baltimore, Banks replaces Troy Aikman in Dallas. The Cowboys like his big arm. It fits their vertical passing game. They envision long bombs to Joey Galloway and Rocket Ismail. They ignore the fumbles. Nobody fumbles more than Banks.



DOUG FLUTIE, CHARGERS

After Ryan Leaf, San Diego will put Flutie on such a pedestal he'll look like a giant. But think of this, Charger fans: Haven't you had your fill of ex-Bear quarterbacks. There was Bobby Douglass back in the pre-Dan Fouts days. Then there was Jim McMahon, Jim Harbaugh, Moses Moreno, now Flutie. Chicago isn't exactly a cradle of quarterbacks, you know.

BRAD JOHNSON, BUCCANEERS

His arm isn't as strong as, say, Leaf's, but it's stronger than, say, Shaun King's. The last Johnson, Keyshawn, was not the answer. Maybe this one is. If not, it's time to sign Lee Johnson and punt.

MATT HASSELBECK, SEAHAWKS

Matt who? He sat nicely on the bench behind Brett Favre, which is recommendation enough for Mike Holmgren and anybody else who watched Ron Wolf draft quarterbacks. Mark Brunell backed up Favre. Kurt Warner backed up Favre. Ty Detmer backed up Favre. Aaron Brooks backed up Favre. Make way for the next free-agent find, Henry Burris, the Canadian Football League star now backing up Favre.

JON KITNA, BENGALS

Maybe he'll beat out Akili Smith, maybe not. Maybe he'll beat out Scott Mitchell, maybe not. Maybe Mike Holmgren made a mistake, maybe not. Maybe the Bengals are desperate, maybe not.

QUARTERBACK

JAMES MCKNIGHT, WR, DOLPHINS:
Wide receiver has size, speed and upside after 52-catch Dallas stint. Remember Jimmy Smith?

JAMES THRASH, WR, EAGLES:
He was more productive and much lower-maintenance than former Redskin receiving teammate Albert Connell.

CHAD EATON, DT, SEAHAWKS:
As a kid, he loved Seattle's Joe Nash. That incentive, plus playing on same line with John Randle, will pay dividends.

DEREK SMITH, MLB, 49ERS:
Underappreciated in Washington amid the so-called superstars, Smith will blossom.

DENARD WALKER, CB, BRONCOS:
Titans didn't want to lose him, especially to an AFC contender. He will upgrade an area of dire Denver need.



TODD STEUSSIE, LT, PANTHERS:
Wore out welcome with Vikings, but is a solid, dependable left tackle, hard to find.

MARCELLUS WILEY, DE, CHARGERS:
Bruce Smith's replacement in Buffalo did so well that new San Diego GM John Butler took him with him.

RAY LUCAS, QB, DOLPHINS:
There are observers of the New York Jets who wonder why this guy didn't get the ball from Vinny Testaverde last year.

ERIC MOULDS, WR, BILLS:
Has developed into a top five receiver and will be Rob Johnson's best friend.

DERRICK MASON, WR, TITANS:
The Titans have been searching for a receiver and found one under their nose.

MARCUS POLLARD, TE, COLTS:
Colts franchised a second-string tight end, but they know what they're doing.

MATT BIRK, C, VIKINGS:
On an all-star line, he quickly became the most valuable player.

WILL SHIELDS, G, CHIEFS:
Guards are usually underappreciated and underpaid. Not this one.

DEXTER COAKLEY, LB, COWBOYS:
The Cowboys normally ignore linebackers, then pay for it later.

JOHN MOBLEY, LB, BRONCOS:
He was subpar last year, but vital to the Denver defense.

DARREN SHARPER, S, PACKERS:
He came through big-time in contract year, just as planned.

OLINDO MARE, PK, DOLPHINS:
Miami had to overpay, but kickers everywhere are happy to greet the first \$2 million-a-year man to the fraternity.



FREE-AGENT FOLLIES

SIMEON RICE, DE, BUCCANEERS:
All he does is rush the passer, which may be all the Bucs want or need for a year. Have sacks, will travel.

ALBERT CONNELL, WR, SAINTS:
New Orleans had great success last year with unwanted merchandise, but the Saints might be pressing their luck with this unhappy camper.

MATTHEW HATCHETTE, WR, JETS:
He's big, like Keyshawn Johnson used to be. He played behind Randy Moss and Cris Carter, so he can't be all bad. But is he dependable enough to take the next step?

LEON LETT, DT, BRONCOS:
Dallas bad boy has experience playing "Mile High." Denver needs to revive him.

KENNY HOLMES, DE, GIANTS:
Like Rice, not an every-down player. Titans upgraded when they traded for Kevin Carter.

ROSS VERBA, OT, BROWNS:
A good left tackle for Super Bowl Packers, then an average left guard. Browns want him to switch to right tackle.

TONY WILLIAMS, DT, BENGALS:
Barely showed up in Minnesota and still got \$11 million over four years from the Bengals.



BUDDING COACHES

SEAN PAYTON, OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR, GIANTS: Giants defensive coordinator John Fox got the interviews, but Payton got raves, too.

GREG KNAPP, OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR, 49ERS: This job is a sure steppingstone. See Holmgren, Shanahan, etc.

GARY KUBIAK, OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR, BRONCOS: Some year the right job is going to become available.

TEAMS TO WATCH

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES:

If Donovan McNabb keeps getting better, there's no way the Eagles can be kept from a title game.

DENVER BRONCOS:

Once Brian Griese and Terrell Davis get healthy at the same time, watch out.

SHANNON SHARPE, TE, BALTIMORE



Loud and proud, Sharpe was the real MVP on the Super Bowl champions. Not only did he lead the Ravens in receptions, rescuing Trent Dilfer and a lost offense, he became a mentor and friend for linebacker Ray Lewis from the time he worked out with him during Lewis's Atlanta trial.

RAVENS DEFENSE

Their outstanding, record-breaking season was impressive, but it hardly puts them in the same class with the Pittsburgh Steelers' Steel Curtain, not after shutting out such luminaries as Kent Graham, Scott Mitchell, Tim Couch and an injured Troy Aikman. Wait another Super Bowl or two.

YES, WE HAVE NO BANDANAS

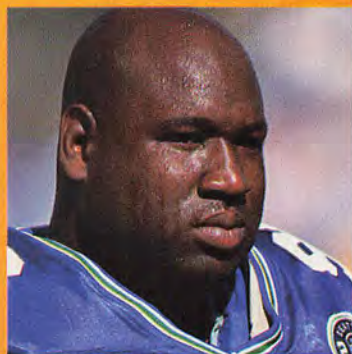


The do-rag is a don't-rag. In the never-ending fight for a cleaner image, the NFL banned bandanas this season, but will allow team-issued "skull caps" for players who don't want their helmets to mess up their hairdos. The Ravens are drawing straws for who tells Ray Lewis.

WHO'S OVERPAID?

The vastly overpaid and overrated defensive tackle class of 2000, or why so many veterans were released and why teams were so happy to see a draft full of good defensive tackles.

- Santana Dotson, Green Bay (\$5,100,000)
- Cortez Kennedy, Seattle (\$4,692,500) ▶
- Ted Washington, Buffalo (\$4,662,500)
- Chester McGlockton, Kansas City (\$4,130,000)
- Sean Gilbert, Carolina (\$3,750,000)
- Dana Stubblefield, Washington (\$3,571,825)
- Leon Lett, Dallas (\$3,400,000)



JOB INSECURITY

The top-paid linebacker, Pittsburgh's

- ▼ Levon Kirkland (\$5,495,000), the top-paid defensive end, Minnesota's John Randle (\$7,750,000) and the top-paid safety, Baltimore's Darren Woodson (\$3,675,783), all were released by their teams after last season.



- Dorsey Levens, Green Bay (\$4,900,000/224 yards) ▲
- Mike Alstott, Tampa Bay (\$4,666,667/465 yards)
- Corey Dillon, Cincinnati (\$3,000,000/1,435 yards)
- Edgerrin James, Indianapolis (\$2,988,572/1,709 yards)

PLAY FOR PAY?

COMING ON STRONG

JAMAL LEWIS, RB, BALTIMORE:

Got better by the week. Must convince Brian Billick to keep handing him the ball.

BRIAN URLACHER, MLB, CHICAGO:

Plays where Bill George, Dick Butkus and Mike Singletary made Hall of Fame.



SAMARI ROLLE, CB, TENNESSEE:

Deion Sanders is a name from the past.

LA'ROI GLOVER, DT, NEW ORLEANS:

Led league with 17 sacks and still works at it.

TERRELL OWENS, WR, SAN FRANCISCO:

Hot-dogging notwithstanding, might be as good as Randy Moss.

JERRY RICE: Nobody retires by choice anymore—but they should.

DEION SANDERS: The question remains. Can Deion cover Jerry?

EMMITT SMITH: Still averaged 4.1 yards per carry, but Walter Payton Fan Club wants him to follow the other Smith, Robert, into retirement.

VINNY TESTAVERDE: If the Jets still want him, why should he quit?

ANDRE RISON: Bad Moon waning, but don't tell him out loud.

OVER THE HILL

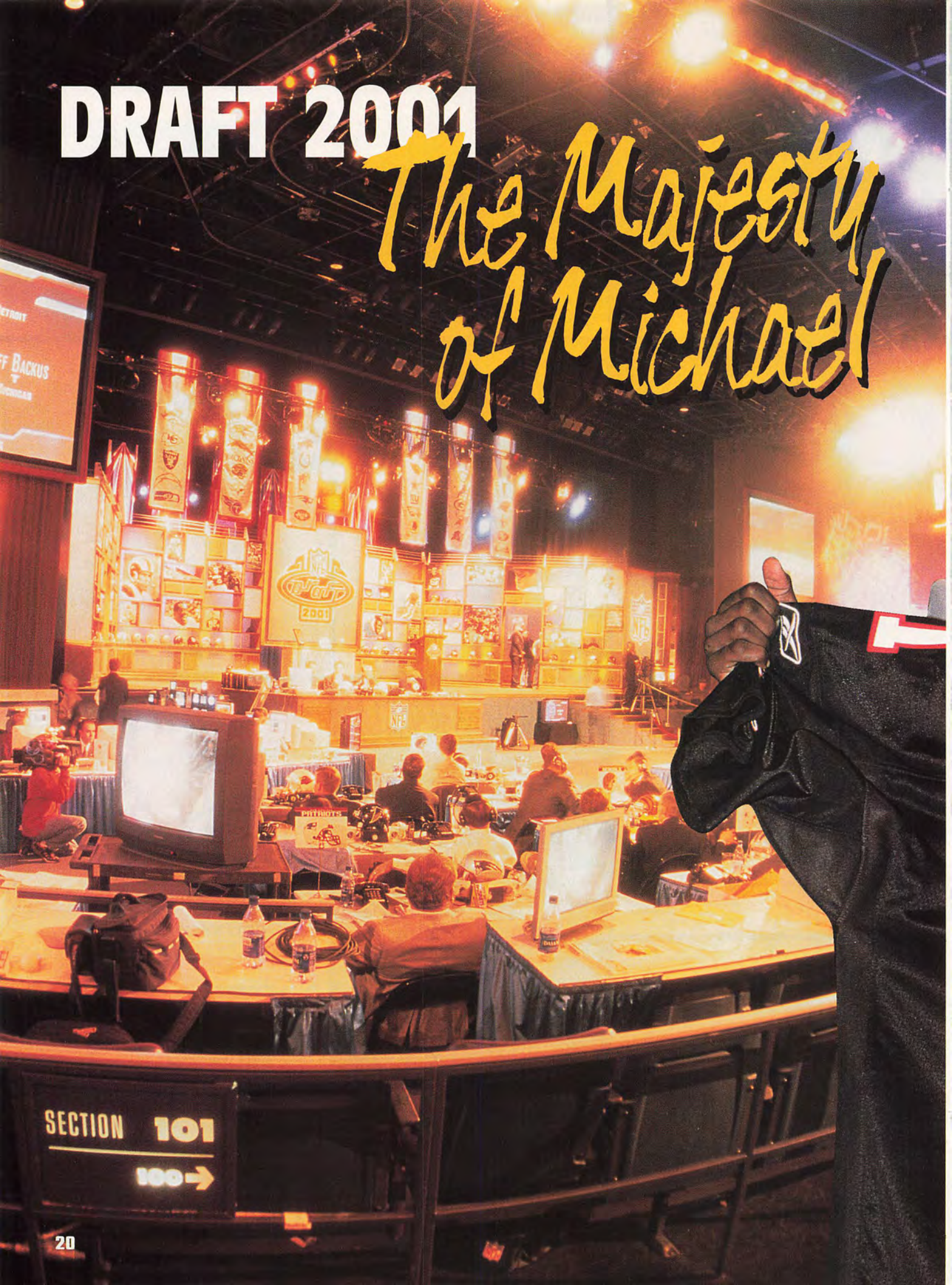
GONE...NOT FORGOTTEN

TROY AIKMAN, ▶ IRVING FRYAR, WARREN MOON, REGGIE WHITE Football players are getting more like boxers. They retire year after year.



DRAFT 2001

The Majesty of Michael





The Falcons are in love with the idea that trading up to get superathlete Michael Vick will revitalize the franchise.

By Anthony L. Gargano

Sell him. Sell the arm and the bewitching moves and the Hokie lore. Sell the soft eyes and the polite ways and the fact that he will buy his mother a "big, new house with all the trimmings" with his first check. Sell the youth, the exuberance. Sell the vision. Push the potential.

Sell him on every Peachtree Street and Buckhead corner and barber shop and Dunkin' Donuts. Sell the notion, and microwave it. Forget football details—he is a little short for a quarterback, the Hokie lore consisted of only 20 games, he threw only 313 passes in college, he is historically not the kind of quarterback Dan Reeves loves. Sell a superstar, even if he is a bigger mystery than Atlanta's Super Bowl year of '98—the NBA does with every 18-year-old who can dunk.

Sell him. Save a franchise.

The "idea" of Michael Vick works fine. In fact, it is probably the smartest thing the Atlanta Falcons have done since firing Jerry Glanville. For if any franchise in the King's League needs an identity it is the Atlanta Falcons, who couldn't muster any momentum from a Super Bowl run three years ago and phenomenon called the Dirty Birds. Go to a Falcon game in the cavernous Georgia Dome and the idea of Michael Vick makes sense. There is nothing sadder in sport than silence in a dome. Forty thousand "shhhhs" and the rest are a day late for Georgia Tech football.

So for a couple of draft choices and a Tim Dwight, the Falcons reinvented themselves, which is to say they invented themselves. For a change, there is a buzz in the "Worst Sports Town in America." Go figure. The World Series for a decade couldn't do it, nor Dominique Wilkins, nor something called the Thrashers.

NFC EAST

NEW YORK GIANTS **B**

You've got to admire that Ernie Accorsi. The Giants had one major problem area and the sage GM worked a fine deal to land CB **Will Allen**, who will help an ailing secondary pronto. Accorsi also took a shot on corner **William Peterson**, a problem child who transferred from Michigan to Western Illinois. It's a gamble in the third round, but he's got the size and skills to be a standout if he's smart. After giving Kenny Holmes \$20 million, the Giants didn't need to take project DE **Cedric Scott** in the fourth round. QB **Jesse Palmer** could be a pleasant surprise down the line, but the Giants failed to address their pressing need at tight end.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES **B**

Donovan McNabb finally gets a playmaker besides himself. Enter UCLA's **Freddie Mitchell**, who said in February: "If the combine is a meat market, then I'm filet mignon." A kid with that kind of moxie will go over the middle for you. Last year the Birds' receivers were ground chuck, so Mitchell ought to make an immediate impact. Watch out for second-round pick **Quinton Caver**, a play-making linebacker who could push for a starting job on the outside. DE **Derrick Burgess** could be the end to Mike Mamula—which in itself is a good thing—but he is a bit undersized. RB **Correll Buckhalter** backed up at Nebraska, but he has breakaway speed and can catch the ball out of the backfield.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS **B**

Daniel Snyder couldn't mess up this one. The Skins desperately needed a wideout and the draft gods offered Clemson's **Rod Gardner** at No. 15. Gardner, a tall, sleek receiver who should have gone higher, is Pro Bowl-caliber and might prove better than David Terrell or Koren Robinson. He'll start right away opposite Michael Westbrook. New coach Marty Schottenheimer's good fortune spilled into the second round, where CB **Fred Smoot** fell all the way to 45 because of off-the-field questions. With Deion Sanders back in baseball and Darrell Green playing the role of Methuselah, Smoot also should contribute right away. On the flip side, explain the selection of QB **Sage Rosenfels** in the fourth round when the Skins had no third-rounder?

DALLAS COWBOYS **F**

The Cowboys, without Troy Aikman, are hurting. Their first-round pick went for Joey Galloway and his broken leg, and their second-round pick (QB **Quincy Carter**) was a reach around the state. So was their second No. 2, S **Tony Dixon**, and third-round DT **Willie Blade** has a worrisome shoulder. It's time to repent, Jerry Jones—and hire a real GM.

ARIZONA CARDINALS **C**

Arizona's interior defense proved a marshmallow treat for opposing running backs last season, so why pass up stud tackle Gerard Warren? **Leonard Davis**, who will move from tackle to guard, should make life safer for Jake Plummer. But it's about defense in the NFC East, specifically beefy boys in the middle of the line to stop Emmitt, Duce, Tiki and Stephen Davis. DE **Kyle Vanden Bosch** is a hustle guy but may lack big-play capability for a high second-rounder. CB **Michael Stone** and S **Adrian Wilson** could help the secondary and **Bill Gramatica** should become 'Zona's kicker, but don't look for an awakening in the desert anytime soon.

NFC CENTRAL

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS **B+**

It's not quantity that makes this grade so high. It's all about one man: **Kenyatta Walker**. One of the great mysteries of this draft was how the stud Florida tackle fell all the way to No. 14. Tampa made the big trade last draft to land Keyshawn Johnson and didn't hesitate to move up nine spots to nab the 6-4, 311-pound Walker. If the Bucs had one weakness besides the quarterback last year, it was protecting him on the outside, and Walker will be there for the next 10 years. The rest of Tampa's draft is shaky, beginning with undersized CB **Dwight Smith** in the third round. But after adding Brad Johnson and Simeon Rice through free agency, it was all about fine-tuning for the Super Bowl.

GREEN BAY PACKERS **C**

Ex-GM Ron Wolf's final draft should help in the long run. The Packers needed a wide receiver badly and passed up on Rod Gardner, but they did get a fine pass rusher in DE **Jamal Reynolds** from Florida State. Reynolds should start out of the box. We'll see about Texas A&M's **Robert Ferguson** in the second round. Ferguson is the big WR

target that Brett Favre loves, but he's a project. LB **Torrance Marshall** was also a gamble in the third, having tested positive for marijuana in the combine. Guard **Bill Ferrario** isn't the most physically gifted lineman, but he's a solid pick in the fourth round.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS **C**

It's no secret the Vikings needed a running back with the retirement of Robert Smith. The Vikes chose Wisconsin's **Michael Bennett**, who has breakaway speed and the same questions regarding his toughness off-tackle as Smith did when he came out of Ohio State. Bennett will work out, but defense will remain a sore subject in Minnesota. DE **Willie Howard** is solid and versatile, but it's doubtful he'll ever be that big-play guy. Meanwhile, CB **Eric Kelly** and DT **Shawn Worthen** were reaches.

DETROIT LIONS **B**

Here's an easy prediction: Matt Millen will turn out to be a terrific team president. Millen centered his draft on giving QB Charlie Batch a chance and got a foundation at tackle in Michigan's **Jeff Backus**. He is exactly Millen's type of guy: smart and tough. Center **Dominic Raiola** will be another good choice once he becomes comfortable pass blocking in the West Coast offense. Raiola, who was rated the best snapper in the draft, spent most of his time bulldozing holes in run-happy Nebraska. The Lions then took a shot late in the second round on Texas DT **Shaun Rogers**, who is recovering from ankle problems. He's a stud when he's healthy. It may not be this year, but it's about the future for the Lions now.

CHICAGO BEARS **C+**

It's hard to pass up such a great talent in Michigan's **David Terrell**, and he'll make an immediate impact if Cade McNown can find reality. But the Bears were deep at wideout and could have really used a big-time running back or defensive end. The 49ers traded up to snatch away DE Andre Carter, who would have looked real nice in front of Brian Urlacher. The Bears went Michigan again in the second round with the A-Train, but here's the question: Was **Anthony Thomas** a product of the Wolverines' stellar offensive line? The quiet pick of Notre Dame OG **Mike Gandy** could turn out to be a steal. Another to watch is seventh-rounder **John Capel**, the Olympic sprinter whom the Bears would love to have stick as a return man.

NFC WEST

ST. LOUIS RAMS **A**

The Rams became a Super Bowl contender again over draft weekend. St. Looie dealt backup QB Trent Green to the Chiefs for the 12th pick and Miami DT **Damione Lewis**, who fits better than having to score 48 a game to win. Lewis is extremely quick, a penetrator who makes plays, big plays, something the Rams were used to giving up on defense. Using their other two No. 1s, the Rams beefed up with SS **Adam Archuleta**, who should complement Kim Herring well—and DT **Ryan Pickett**. Don't know about Pickett so high, though he does have some upside after leaving Ohio State after his junior year. Florida State LBs **Tommy Polley** and **Brian Allen** in the second and third rounds, respectively, give the Rams some speed at the position, and keep one eye on Washington State WR **Milton Wynn**, who proved to be an underrated threat in the Pac-10. The Rams also get praise for trading draft picks to Arizona for veteran CB Aeneas Williams.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS **D**

Taking another running back two years after trading away the franchise for one—so what if it was Ditka—is really hard to swallow. **Deuce McAllister** is a good pick if he stays away from those pesky hamstring pulls that kept him out of practice at Mississippi. But now you add an injury-prone back to the ultimate heartbreak back in Ricky Williams? Who knows? Maybe Ricky goes to baseball or wrestling or Hollywood and coach Jim Haslett is a genius. LB **Sedrick Hodge** has the physical ability to succeed, but what about the game-smarts? DT **Kenny Smith** was a reach in the fourth round and DT **Ennis Davis** bombed out last year at USC.

CAROLINA PANTHERS **C+**

Once upon a time, back in the mid-'90s, this franchise was born on defense. It staved off the growing pains of expansion and, shortly thereafter, landed in the NFC Championship Game. Enter Miami LB **Dan Morgan**, who finally gives the docile Panther defense some bite. He's got the attitude of Kevin Greene and can flat-out play. So can DT **Kris Jenkins**, who may also start right away. Now for the flip side: **Chris Weinke**. Because the Panthers have no quarterback (Jeff Lewis), Weinke may also play right away. Not good. Much was made of

Weinke's age at Florida State, but that didn't stop him from unraveling in big games.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS **B**

Bill Walsh's final draft appears to be a solid one. The old sage certainly put in the effort. He traded up to steal DE **Andre Carter** from the Bears and give the 49ers some life on defense. Lord knows they needed it. Carter is not only a solid football player but he also brings an attitude that hasn't been there in three years. LB **Jamie Winborn** from Vanderbilt may be a bit undersized but he won't miss a tackle, and Pitt's **Kevan Barlow** was a value in the third round, especially with Charlie Garner bidding adieu. He can run it up the middle and has enough speed to turn the corner and can catch the ball out of the backfield.

ATLANTA FALCONS **C**

Visions of Akili Smith? **Michael Vick** has tremendous moves, but does he understand the position well enough? It's not like he played in a sophisticated offense at Virginia Tech. But with his athletic talent, can you blame the Falcons? **Alge Crumpler** will be a quality TE and Purdue's **Vinny Sutherland** replaces Tim Dwight nicely.

AFC EAST

NEW YORK JETS **B**

If anybody will be a hit on Broadway, it's **Santana Moss**, who should have no problem complementing Wayne Chrebet on the other side. Yes, he's small (5-9). Yes, too, he makes plays. Perhaps the Jets didn't have to trade up to get Moss, but GM Terry Bradaway and coach Herman Edwards get solid grades on their first draft together, because Maryland RB **LaMont Jordan**, Penn State OT **Kareem McKenzie** and Georgia CB **Jamie Henderson** will all contribute next season. Prediction: Edwards, the former Tampa assistant, will star in the "Miracle of the Meadowlands II" in the coming years.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS **D**

The Colts think **Reggie Wayne** is the guy to play alongside Marvin Harrison. The former Miami WR ran the most precise routes of anyone in the draft and he's got the hands, but didn't Jerome Pathon? Meanwhile, what about the secondary? FS **Idrees Bashir**'s stock soared because of his size and speed, but he's still a project. DB **Cory Bird** was a terrible reach in the third round, and don't

look for any help from fifth-round DB **Raymond Walls**.

MIAMI DOLPHINS **B**

The Dolphins really like Wisconsin CB **Jamar Fletcher** to join the strong cover likes of Sam Madison and Patrick Surtain. With Jason Taylor back in the fold after flirting with free agency (love that franchise tag), go ahead, try and throw on the Dolphins. The Fish had trouble throwing on anybody. Perhaps Ray Lucas will beat out Jay Fiedler, and second-round pick **Chris Chambers** will provide him a viable target. Chambers has all the physical tools; we just didn't see enough of him in the Badgers' run-oriented offense. One pick to watch: DE **Otis Leverette**, a sixth-rounder out of Alabama-Birmingham who could be a real sleeper as a pass rusher.

BUFFALO BILLS **B+**

There aren't many better architects in the game than Tom Donahoe. Case in point, this year's draft. Donahoe was shrewd trading down in the first round and still coming out with his man: Ohio State CB **Nate Clements**, who may be the best cover guy in the draft. The Bills needed an influx of young talent and also came away with fine DE **Aaron Schobel** from TCU, a solid RB in Tennessee's **Travis Henry** and some beef up the middle in DT **Ron Edwards**. Donahoe is best in the middle rounds, so watch out for North Carolina LB **Brandon Spoon**, who should have went higher, and Notre Dame S **Tony Driver**. Ohio State's **Reggie Germany** was a steal late in the seventh round.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS **C+**

So the Pats needed some help for Drew Bledsoe and came away with DT **Richard Seymour**. To be fair, New England's interior defense played soft for opposing rushers last season and Georgia's Seymour has the physical ability to make a difference. But he took too many plays off for the Dawgs. The Pats did add numbers, beginning with OLs **Matt Light** and **Kenyatta Jones** to bolster a terrible offensive line. CB **Brock Williams** should play right away in the nickel, and TE **Jabari Holloway** was a good value in the fifth round.

AFC CENTRAL

BALTIMORE RAVENS **C**

The Ravens get high marks for their off-season acquisitions. Elvis Grbac is certainly an upgrade and Leon Searcy remains a force

at tackle, and not losing Jamie Sharper and Rod Woodson is huge. Baltimore's draft is about one good man: Arizona State TE **Todd Heap**, who was a gift at No. 31. Brian Billick likes to play a two-tight end set and Heap is the perfect complement to Shannon Sharpe. Second-rounder **Gary Baxter** will provide some quality depth at corner, but it gets very thin the rest of the way. Wisconsin's **Casey Rabach** has a chance to see time somewhere on the offensive line.

TENNESSEE TITANS **C**

The Titans didn't have a first-round pick because they traded it for DE Kevin Carter. That's all good. A change of scenery will do Carter good and playing opposite Jevon Kearse will get him back in the teens for sacks. Now is Utah CB **Andre Dyson**, brother of Titan wideout Kevin Dyson, worth a second-rounder? He made some plays for the Utes but he also took a lot of chances. TE Shad Meier's stock soared close to draft day. Some had the Kansas State product rated as the No. 3 tight end. Be wary of such players. Pick to watch: Fourth-rounder **Justin McCareins**, a wide receiver from Northern Illinois who has good speed and great instincts for the ball. He could have been overlooked in such a deep draft of wideouts.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS **C**

The Steelers wanted to address defense early in the draft. Makes sense after years of being ravaged in the free-agent market. But we're not sure about DT **Casey Hampton** from Texas, especially when you already have Kimo von Oelhoffen in the middle of that 3-4 scheme. Georgia LB **Kendrell Bell** is a great pick. Bell, who knows how to lay a hat on people, will slide right in and play. Temple OT **Mathias Nkwenti** in the fourth round was a bit of a reach, though the Steelers rebounded nicely with Purdue C **Chukky Okobi** in the fifth.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS **C**

The Jags were given a gift when they hit the clock with OT Kenyatta Walker and OG Steve Hutchinson still alive. Go figure. They passed on both. That's what happens when you fall in love with a player. The Jags wanted Georgia DT **Marcus Stroud** all along and were undeterred by other possibilities. Stroud should be a player, but the offensive line is suddenly shaky in front of Mark Brunell, especially now with the loss of Leon Searcy. Michigan's **Maurice Williams** will be a fine contributor

at OT once he learns how to play in the league. We're split on the third-rounders: S **James Boyd** from Penn State will help more than weakside LB **Eric Westmoreland**.

CINCINNATI BENGALS **B**

The Bengals scored more in the first two rounds than they did all season with DE **Justin Smith** and WR **Chad Johnson**. The 6-4, 267-pound Smith, who is only the seventh player ever to have his number retired at Missouri, finally gives the Bengals a playmaker on defense. Meanwhile, Johnson kept falling and falling. He ends up right beside Peter Warrick and new quarterback Jon Kitna, giving the Bengals an offense other than Corey Dillon. TE **Sean Brewer** has great speed but he went a little high at No. 66.

CLEVELAND BROWNS **B+**

Believe in Butch? We do. We also like DT **Gerard Warren**, who is one of the few sure things in this rookie crop. K-State's **Quincy Morgan** is a gamble in the second round, but he could pay off into a great player. There's not a lot of middle ground here. Overlooked and underrated is Miami RB **James Jackson**, who is not afraid to pick up that extra yard and could be a better pro than Anthony Thomas. The Browns also hit on South Florida DB **Anthony Henry**, who represents value in the fourth round. ETA for the Browns: 2003.

AFC WEST

OAKLAND RAIDERS **C**

What is it about the Raiders? No matter who's in charge, their draft mind-set is a little odd. It doesn't get much better than Jon Gruden, but S **Derrick Gibson** at No. 28 was extremely questionable. The safety spot killed them in the postseason, but Gibson played roverback at Florida State and made very few big plays. While Gruden may make **Marques Tuiasosopo** into an NFL quarterback, the Raiders could have certainly landed him a round later. DE **DeLawrence Grant** is a project pass rusher who he could wind up being worth more than a fourth-rounder, and WR **Ken-Yon Rambo** in the seventh was thievery considering he had once been projected as a potential second-rounder.

DENVER BRONCOS **B-**

One of these days, the Broncos will get it right in the secondary. It's obvious they are still uneasy with last year's first-rounder, Deltha O'Neal, since they signed Denard

Walker as a free agent and promptly drafted **Willie Middlebrooks** with the 24th overall pick. Middlebrooks is big and physical but does have a history of injury problems. Meanwhile, DE **Paul Toviessi** could see time on passing downs, but why go with another DE (**Reggie Hayward**) in the third when he was a bit of a reach? Denver ranked 24th in punting last season, so Cal's **Nick Harris** should win that job in camp.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS **B-**

Call the Chargers "scared straight." After such a colossal disaster with Ryan Leaf, who can blame the Bolts for dealing out of the top spot and the questionable Michael Vick, especially when they get a legitimate running back in **LaDainian Tomlinson**. Anybody who doesn't think Tomlinson is a better bet than Vick isn't paying attention. The Bolts were most fortunate when **Drew Brees** lingered to No. 32. Many question Brees' potential at the next level, but you can't question his mentality. He's Big Ten-tough and ran an elaborate offense in college—the necessary ingredients to make it. CB **Tay Cody**, however, was a stretch in the third round and LB **Carlos Polk** is more of a project.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS **A**

It's finally coming together for Mike Holmgren. Three years into it, he needed to retool, but what a way to do it. He grabs a can't-miss receiver in **Koren Robinson**, who is only 20 and has the long body to thrive in the West Coast offense. Then comes OG **Steve Hutchinson** from Michigan to solidify the line in front of new QB Matt Hasselback. Hutchinson was a flat-out steal. Then comes a solid CB in **Ken Lucas**, who may win the job opposite Shawn Springs. Then the Seahawks wind up the first day with **Heath Evans**, who was the best fullback in the draft. Evans also is built for the West Coast offense. Finally, in Seattle, a big day.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS **C-**

Dick Vermeil parlayed much of this draft for his quarterback (Trent Green), which was certainly a wise move. DE **Eric Downing** from Syracuse in the third round, however, wasn't so shrewd. Downing went at least two rounds higher than expected. Meanwhile, Florida State WR **Marvin "Snoop" Minnis** likely won't play much either his rookie season. The pick to watch is fifth-rounder **Derrick Blaylock**, the speedy RB out of Stephen F. Austin who could be a major sleeper. ■



THE CLASS OF 2001

From left: Leonard Davis (Cardinals), Justin Smith (Bengals), David Terrell (Bears), Paul Tagliabue (NFL commissioner), LaDainian Tomlinson (Chargers), Michael Vick (Falcons), Kenyatta Walker (Buccaneers).

TEAM-BY-TEAM DRAFT PICKS

AFC EAST

BUFFALO BILLS



RD	PLAYER	POS.	COLLEGE
1	NATE CLEMENTS	CB	OHIO STATE
2	AARON SCHOBEL	DE	TCU
2	TRAVIS HENRY	RB	TENNESSEE
3	RON EDWARDS	DT	TEXAS A&M
3	JONAS JENNINGS	OT	GEORGIA
4	BRANDON SPOON	LB	NORTH CAROLINA
5	MARQUES SULLIVAN	OT	ILLINOIS
6	TONY DRIVER	S	NOTRE DAME
6	DAN O'LEARY	TE	NOTRE DAME
6	JIMMY WILLIAMS	CB	VANDERBILT
7	REGGIE GERMANY	WR	OHIO STATE
7	TYRONE ROBERTSON	DT	HINDS C.C.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS



1	REGGIE WAYNE	WR	MIAMI (FL)
2	IDREES BASHIR	S	MEMPHIS
3	CORY BIRD	S	VIRGINIA TECH
4	RYAN DIEM	OG	NORTHERN ILLINOIS
5	RAYMOND WALLS	CB	SOUTHERN MISS
6	JASON DOERING	S	WISCONSIN
7	RICK DEMULLING	OG	IDAHO

MIAMI DOLPHINS



1	JAMAR FLETCHER	CB	WISCONSIN
2	CHRIS CHAMBERS	WR	WISCONSIN
3	TRAVIS MINOR	RB	FLORIDA STATE
3	MORLON GREENWOOD	LB	SYRACUSE
5	SHAWN DRAPER	OT	ALABAMA
6	BRANDON WINEY	OT	LSU
6	JOSH HEUPEL	QB	OKLAHOMA
6	OTIS LEVERETTE	DE	UAB
6	RICK CROWELL	LB	COLORADO STATE

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS



1	RICHARD SEYMOUR	DT	GEORGIA
2	MATT LIGHT	OG	PURDUE
3	BROCK WILLIAMS	CB	NOTRE DAME
4	KENYATTA JONES	OG	SOUTH FLORIDA
4	JABARI HOLLOWAY	TE	NOTRE DAME
5	HAKIM AKBAR	S	WASHINGTON
6	ARTHER LOVE	TE	S.C. STATE
6	LEONARD MYERS	CB	MIAMI (FL)
7	OWEN POCHMAN	PK	BYU
7	T.J. TURNER	LB	MICHIGAN STATE

NEW YORK JETS



1	SANTANA MOSS	WR	MIAMI (FL)
2	LAMONT JORDAN	RB	MARYLAND
3	KAREEM MCKENZIE	OT	PENN STATE
4	JAMIE HENDERSON	CB	GEORGIA
7	JAMES REED	DT	IOWA STATE
7	TUPE PEKO	OG	MICHIGAN STATE

AFC CENTRAL

BALTIMORE RAVENS



1	TODD HEAP	TE	ARIZONA STATE
2	GARY BAXTER	CB	BAYLOR
3	CASEY RABACH	C	WISCONSIN
4	EDGERTON HARTWELL	LB	WESTERN ILLINOIS
5	CHRIS BARNES	RB	NEW MEXICO ST.
6	JOE MAESE	C	NEW MEXICO
7	DWAYNE MISSOURI	DE	NORTHWESTERN

CINCINNATI BENGALS



1	JUSTIN SMITH	DE	MISSOURI
2	CHAD JOHNSON	WR	OREGON STATE

3	SEAN BREWER	TE	SAN JOSE STATE
4	RUDI JOHNSON	RB	AUBURN
5	VICTOR LEYVA	OG	ARIZONA STATE
6	RIALL JOHNSON	LB	STANFORD
7	T.J. HOUSHMANDZADEH	WR	OREGON STATE

CLEVELAND BROWNS



1	GERARD WARREN	DT	FLORIDA
2	QUINCY MORGAN	WR	KANSAS STATE
3	JAMES JACKSON	RB	MIAMI
4	ANTHONY HENRY	S	SOUTH FLORIDA
5	JEREMIAH PHARMS	LB	WASHINGTON
6	MICHAEL JAMESON	S	TEXAS A&M
7	PAUL ZUKAUSKAS	OG	BOSTON COLLEGE
7	ANDRE KING	WR	MIAMI

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS



1	MARCUS STROUD	DT	GEORGIA
2	MAURICE WILLIAMS	OT	MICHIGAN
3	ERIC WESTMORELAND	LB	TENNESSEE
3	JAMES BOYD	S	PENN STATE
5	DAVID LEAVERTON	P	TENNESSEE
6	CHAD WARD	OG	WASHINGTON
7	ANTHONY DENMAN	LB	NOTRE DAME
7	MARLON MCCREE	S	KENTUCKY
7	RICHMOND FLOWERS	WR	CHATTANOOGA
7	RANDY CHEVRIER	DT	MCGILL

PITTSBURGH STEELERS



1	CASEY HAMPTON	DT	TEXAS
2	KENDRELL BELL	LB	GEORGIA
4	MATHIAS NKWENTI	OT	TEMPLE
5	CHUKKY OKOBI	C	PURDUE
6	RODNEY BAILEY	DE	OHIO STATE
6	ROGER KNIGHT	LB	WISCONSIN
7	CHRIS TAYLOR	WR	TEXAS A&M

TENNESSEE TITANS



2	ANDRE DYSON	CB	UTAH
3	SHAD MEIER	TE	KANSAS STATE
4	JUSTIN MCCAREINS	WR	NORTHERN ILLINOIS
5	EDDIE BERLIN	WR	NORTHERN IOWA
6	DAN ALEXANDER	RB	NEBRASKA
6	ADAM HAAYER	OT	MINNESOTA
7	KEITH ADAMS	LB	CLEMSON

AFC WEST

DENVER BRONCOS



1	WILLIE MIDDLEBROOKS	CB	MINNESOTA
2	PAUL TOVIESSI	DE	MARSHALL
3	REGGIE HAYWARD	DE	IOWA STATE
4	BEN HAMILTON	C	MINNESOTA
4	NICK HARRIS	P	CALIFORNIA
6	KEVIN KASPER	WR	IOWA

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS



3	ERIC DOWNING	DT	SYRACUSE
3	MARVIN MINNIS	WR	FLORIDA STATE
4	MONTY BEISEL	DE	KANSAS STATE
4	GEORGE LAYNE	RB	TCU

5	BILLY BABER	TE	VIRGINIA
5	DERRICK BLAYLOCK	RB	STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
6	ALEX SULFSTED	OG	MIAMI (OH)
7	SHAUNARD HARTS	S	BOISE STATE
7	TERDELL SANDS	DT	CHATTANOOGA

OAKLAND RAIDERS



1	DERRICK GIBSON	S	FLORIDA STATE
2	MARQUES TUIASOSOPO	QB	WASHINGTON
3	DELAWARENCE GRANT	DE	OREGON STATE
5	RAYMOND PERRYMAN	S	NORTHERN ARIZONA
6	CHRIS COOPER	DT	NEBRASKA-OMAHA
7	DEREK COMBS	RB	OHIO STATE
7	KEN-YON RAMBO	WR	OHIO STATE

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS



1	LADAINIAN TOMLINSON	RB	TCU
2	DREW BRES	QB	PURDUE
3	TAY CODY	CB	FLORIDA STATE
4	CARLOS POLK	LB	NEBRASKA
5	ELLIOT SILVERS	OT	WASHINGTON
5	ZEKE MORENO	LB	USC
7	BRANDON GLENN	OT	PURDUE
7	ROBERT CARSWELL	S	CLEMSON

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS



1	KOREN ROBINSON	WR	N.C. STATE
1	STEVE HUTCHINSON	OG	MICHIGAN
2	KEN LUCAS	CB	OLE MISS
3	HEATH EVANS	RB	AUBURN
4	ORLANDO HUFF	LB	FRESNO STATE
4	CURTIS FULLER	S	TCU
4	FLOYD WOMACK	OT	MISSISSIPPI STATE
5	ALEX BANNISTER	WR	EASTERN KENTUCKY
6	JOSH BOOTY	QB	LSU
7	HAROLD BLACKMON	CB	NORTHWESTERN
7	DENNIS NORMAN	OT	PRINCETON
7	KRIS KOCUREK	DT	TEXAS TECH

NFC EAST

ARIZONA CARDINALS



1	LEONARD DAVIS	OT	TEXAS
2	KYLE VANDEN BOSCH	DE	NEBRASKA
2	MICHAEL STONE	CB	MEMPHIS
3	ADRIAN WILSON	S	N.C. STATE
4	BILL GRAMATICA	PK	SOUTH FLORIDA
4	MARCUS BELL	DT	MEMPHIS
5	MARIO FATAFEHI	DT	KANSAS STATE
6	BOBBY NEWCOMBE	WR	NEBRASKA
7	RENALDO HILL	CB	MICHIGAN STATE
7	TEVITA OFAHENGAUE	TE	BYU

DALLAS COWBOYS



2	QUINCY CARTER	QB	GEORGIA
2	TONY DIXON	S	ALABAMA
3	WILLIE BLADE	DT	MISSISSIPPI STATE
4	MARKUS STEELE	LB	USC
5	MATT LEHR	OG	VIRGINIA TECH
6	DALERROY STEWART	DT	SOUTHERN MISS
7	COLSTON WEATHERINGTON	DE	CENTRAL MISSOURI
7	JOHN NIX	DT	SOUTHERN MISS
7	CHAR-RON DORSEY	OT	FLORIDA STATE

NEW YORK GIANTS



1	WILL ALLEN	CB	SYRACUSE
3	WILLIAM PETERSON	CB	WESTERN ILLINOIS
4	CEDRIC SCOTT	DE	SOUTHERN MISS
4	JESSE PALMER	QB	FLORIDA
5	JOHN MARKHAM	PK	VANDERBILT
5	JONATHAN CARTER	WR	TROY STATE
7	ROSS KOLODZIEJ	DT	WISCONSIN

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES



1	FREDDIE MITCHELL	WR	UCLA
2	QUINTON CAVER	LB	ARKANSAS
3	DERRICK BURGESS	DE	OLE MISS
4	CORRELL BURKHALTER	RB	NEBRASKA
5	TONY STEWART	TE	PENN STATE
5	A.J. FEELEY	QB	OREGON

WASHINGTON REDSKINS



1	ROD GARDNER	WR	CLEMSON
2	FRED SMOOT	CB	MISSISSIPPI STATE
4	SAGE ROSENFELS	QB	IOWA STATE
5	DARNERIEN MCCANTS	WR	DELAWARE STATE
6	MARIO MONDS	DT	CINCINNATI

NFC CENTRAL

CHICAGO BEARS



1	DAVID TERRELL	WR	MICHIGAN
2	ANTHONY THOMAS	RB	MICHIGAN
3	MIKE GANDY	OG	NOTRE DAME
4	KARON RILEY	DE	MINNESOTA
5	BERNARD ROBERTSON	C	TULANE
7	JOHN CAPEL	WR	FLORIDA

DETROIT LIONS



1	JEFF BACKUS	OT	MICHIGAN
2	DOMINIC RAIOLA	C	NEBRASKA
2	SHAUN ROGERS	DT	TEXAS
5	SCOTTY ANDERSON	WR	GRAMBLING
5	MIKE MCMAHON	QB	RUTGERS
6	JASON GLENN	LB	TEXAS A&M

GREEN BAY PACKERS



1	JAMAL REYNOLDS	DE	FLORIDA STATE
2	ROBERT FERGUSON	WR	TEXAS A&M
3	BHAWOH JUE	CB	PENN STATE
3	TORRANCE MARSHALL	LB	OKLAHOMA
4	BILL FERRARIO	OG	WISCONSIN
6	DAVID MARTIN	TE	TENNESSEE

MINNESOTA VIKINGS



1	MICHAEL BENNETT	RB	WISCONSIN
2	WILLIE HOWARD	DE	STANFORD
3	ERIC KELLY	CB	KENTUCKY
4	SHAWN WORTHEN	DT	TCU
4	SEDRICK JONES	WR	TCU
5	PATRICK CHUKWURAH	LB	WYOMING
6	CAREY SCOTT	CB	KENTUCKY STATE
7	BRIAN CRAWFORD	OT	WESTERN OREGON

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS



1	KENYATTA WALKER	OT	FLORIDA
3	DWIGHT SMITH	CB	AKRON
4	JOHN HOWELL	S	COLORADO STATE
5	RUSS HOCHSTEIN	OG	NEBRASKA
6	JAMEEL COOK	RB	ILLINOIS
6	ELLIS WYMS	DT	MISSISSIPPI STATE
7	DAUNTAE FINGER	TE	NORTH CAROLINA
7	THAN MERRILL	S	YALE
7	JOE TAFOYA	DE	ARIZONA

NFC WEST

ATLANTA FALCONS



1	MICHAEL VICK	QB	VIRGINIA TECH
2	ALGE CRUMPLER	TE	NORTH CAROLINA
4	ROBERT GARZA	C	TEXAS A&M-KINGSVILLE
4	MATT STEWART	LB	VANDERBILT
5	VINNY SUTHERLAND	WR	PURDUE
6	RANDY GARNER	DE	ARKANSAS
7	COREY HALL	S	APPALACHIAN STATE
7	KYNAN FORNEY	OT	HAWAII
7	RONALD FLEMONS	DE	TEXAS A&M
7	QUENTIN MCCORD	WR	KENTUCKY

CAROLINA PANTHERS



1	DAN MORGAN	LB	MIAMI
2	KRIS JENKINS	DT	MARYLAND
3	STEVE SMITH	WR	UTAH
4	CHRIS WEINKE	QB	FLORIDA STATE
5	JARROD COOPER	S	KANSAS STATE
6	DEE BROWN	RB	SYRACUSE
7	LOUIS WILLIAMS	C	LSU
7	MIKE ROBERG	TE	IDAHO

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS



1	DEUCE MCALLISTER	RB	OLE MISS
3	SEDRICK HODGE	LB	NORTH CAROLINA
3	KENNY SMITH	DT	ALABAMA
4	MORAN NORRIS	RB	KANSAS
5	ONOME OJO	WR	CALIFORNIA-DAVIS
6	MITCH WHITE	OT	OREGON STATE
7	ENNIS DAVIS	DT	USC

ST. LOUIS RAMS



1	DAMIONE LEWIS	DT	MIAMI (FL)
1	ADAM ARCHULETA	S	ARIZONA STATE
1	RYAN PICKETT	DT	OHIO STATE
2	TOMMY POLLEY	LB	FLORIDA STATE
3	BRIAN ALLEN	LB	FLORIDA STATE
4	MILTON WYNN	WR	WASHINGTON ST.
4	BRANDON MANUMALEUNA	TE	ARIZONA
5	JERAMETRIUS BUTLER	CB	KANSAS STATE
6	FRANCIS ST. PAUL	WR	NORTHERN ARIZONA

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS



1	ANDRE CARTER	DE	CALIFORNIA
2	JAMIE WINBORN	LB	VANDERBILT
3	KEVAN BARLOW	RB	PITTSBURGH
6	CEDRICK WILSON	WR	TENNESSEE
6	RASHAD HOLMAN	CB	LOUISVILLE
6	MENSHON HOLLOWAY	DE	UTEP
7	ALEX LINCOLN	LB	AUBURN
7	ERIC JOHNSON	TE	YALE



Back from

By LENN ROBBINS
New York Post

Kerry Collins stood before the media in Tampa last January like a sheet on a clothesline. Every stain was there to be seen. Let the neighbors talk.

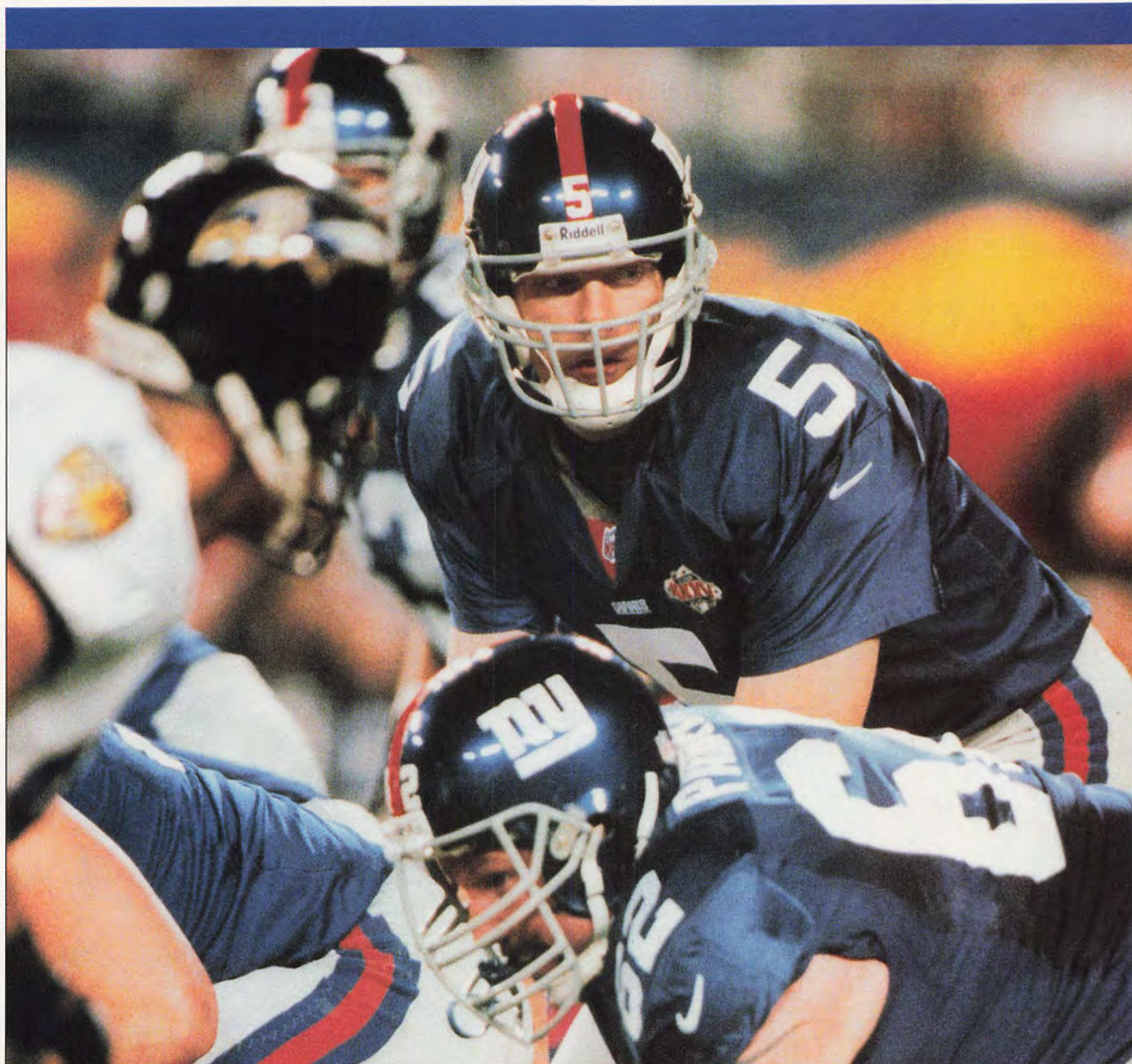
Collins wanted it this way. He wanted to talk about the past, his drunken, soiled past.

Perhaps only a fellow addict could appreciate the guts Collins displayed just a few days before Super Bowl XXXV. But anyone who has been knocked down, counted out, had a setback, screwed up or let others down knows how he felt a few weeks after getting pummeled 34-7 by the Baltimore Ravens.

Strengthened by his bumpy ride from substance-abuse center to NFC championship, Giants quarterback Kerry Collins now has one remaining addiction: the need for a Super Bowl ring.

the brink





Just weeks after his horrendous 15-of-39 passing performance for a mere 112 yards and four interceptions, Collins went home to Pennsylvania to reclaim his driver's license. It was the license he lost after his drunk-driving conviction in 1998 at Charlotte. "It was great," Collins said. "You feel like a man again. Almost, it's like freedom, empowerment."

Oh, you expected the recovering alcoholic (Collins acknowledges he will always be a recovering alcoholic) to fall off the wagon after getting folded, spindled and mutilated by the Ravens? You thought wrong.

With his license in hand, Collins bought himself a new Chevrolet Silverado. Too bad cars have a reverse gear, because Collins has no intention of going back to that dark point in his life when his only light was in a bottle. The bottle contained a demon, not a genie. The bottle controlled his life.

That's the way it is with addictions. You're out of control and

the liquor deceives you. It makes you feel like you're in control. You think you can control the liquor, the way a quarterback is supposed to control a game. Down and distance. Move the chains.

It doesn't work that way, just as virtually everything the Giants tried in the Super Bowl didn't work against one of the best defenses of all time. The only points the Giants scored came on a Ron Dixon kickoff return.

Life after the blowout

Kerry Collins wasn't in control. Now it was the Ravens who were the demon in the bottle.

"First of all, Baltimore is very good," Collins said about a month after his Super Bowl defeat. "And I got frustrated because I couldn't find a way to crack them. There are gambles you consider on every passing play, but you have to make the right decisions. Frustrated, I didn't make good decisions. That still stings me a little,



but I've recovered from that. My mental state is fine."

Yes, Collins has recovered. The way he handled the weeks after the Super Bowl gives Giants fans reason to believe that the \$15.9 million gamble that General Manager Ernie Accorsi took on Collins, when he signed him as a free agent before the 1999 season, won't be blown on expensive scotch.

It is March 1 and Collins is in Manhattan at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, surrounded by children with disabilities; children who are cheering for him. He has just presented a \$100,000 check (\$57,000 of which is his own money) toward the construction of a computer center.

You still have questions about Kerry Collins? His coach doesn't.

"Kerry Collins took the New York Giants to the Super Bowl, but that's not the success story," said Jim Fassel. "The success story is what Kerry Collins is today."

Today, Collins is the losing quarterback in Super Bowl XXXV and the winning recovering addict. He says he hasn't watched a tape of the game; doesn't need to. He knows the pass he tried to force into coverage and was intercepted and returned 49 yards for a touchdown by Duane Starks was an act of frustration.

The Kerry Collins post-Super Bowl question was, "How did you deal with your latest frustration?"

"I was outside relaxing," Collins said. "It's not like I sat alone in a darkened room for three days without talking to anyone. But I wasn't seeking out highlights of the game and I didn't have to hear any conversation about it. I knew what was being said, that we got

wasn't on the same page. The family had a falling out, although they had a reunion at the Super Bowl.

While his support system was crumbling around him, Collins was excelling on the field. He led Penn State to an undefeated season in 1994 and Nittany Lion coach Joe Paterno's first-ever Rose Bowl triumph. He was drafted by the Carolina Panthers and led them to the NFC Championship game in just his second season.

And he drank, which is accepted behavior in any "Jocktown." He drank and, like the seams on an old football, life started to unravel for Collins.

Down and out in New Orleans

His play declined. He had a falling out with Panthers coach Dom Capers and actually asked to be taken out of the starting lineup. He got cut and signed with the New Orleans Saints. Mike Ditka figured he would be the coach who would turn around the "lost soul," as Collins described himself.

Iron Mike found out it wasn't that easy. When the Saints were to play the Panthers, Ditka allowed Collins to skip the game. Collins went back to Charlotte. He still didn't think he had a problem.

But then there was a cop shining his flashlight in Collins' face one night and asking for a license and registration. There was the drunk-driving conviction. There was an NFL-mandated stay in a substance-abuse center.

Collins started to see the light. He checked in two weeks before his scheduled arrival date at the center.

'Kerry Collins took the New York Giants to the Super Bowl, but that's not the success story. The success story is what Kerry Collins is today.' —Jim Fassel

beat pretty bad, which we did. And that I played terrible, which I pretty much did."

The making of an alcoholic

This is the new Kerry Collins, the guy who looks you in the eye as he answers the tough questions. There are no more darkened rooms or corner bars. There are no more drinking binges with teammates, like the one in Charlotte when Collins foolishly used a racial slur thinking it would somehow endear him to the very players he alienated.

How did he find himself on such a darkened road? Substance-abuse experts will tell you there is no one route. Nor does the journey have a clearly marked starting point.

Collins' parents had their share of problems. Dad wanted him to be a stud quarterback and moved him from one Pennsylvania high school to another. Mom



"To go somewhere in a structured, controlled environment to receive help was certainly very shocking to me," Collins said the Tuesday before the Super Bowl. "That's a feeling I'll never forget and one that keeps motivating me to keep doing what I'm doing."

Before the Giants signed Collins, Accorsi called Paterno. Paterno vouched for Collins. Two years later, Collins led the Giants to the NFC title. He says there's no going back. The Ravens know the taste of champagne. Collins just wants a sip of victory.

"Sometimes you just have to analyze it and realize that you got outplayed," he said. "And to get better, you've got to accept that but put it behind you. There are other important things you can do in life."

Like live it clean and sober.

Let the neighbors talk.

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The great Hula Bowl Maui All-star Classic will kick off on **Saturday, January 19, 2002 at Maui's War Memorial Stadium.**

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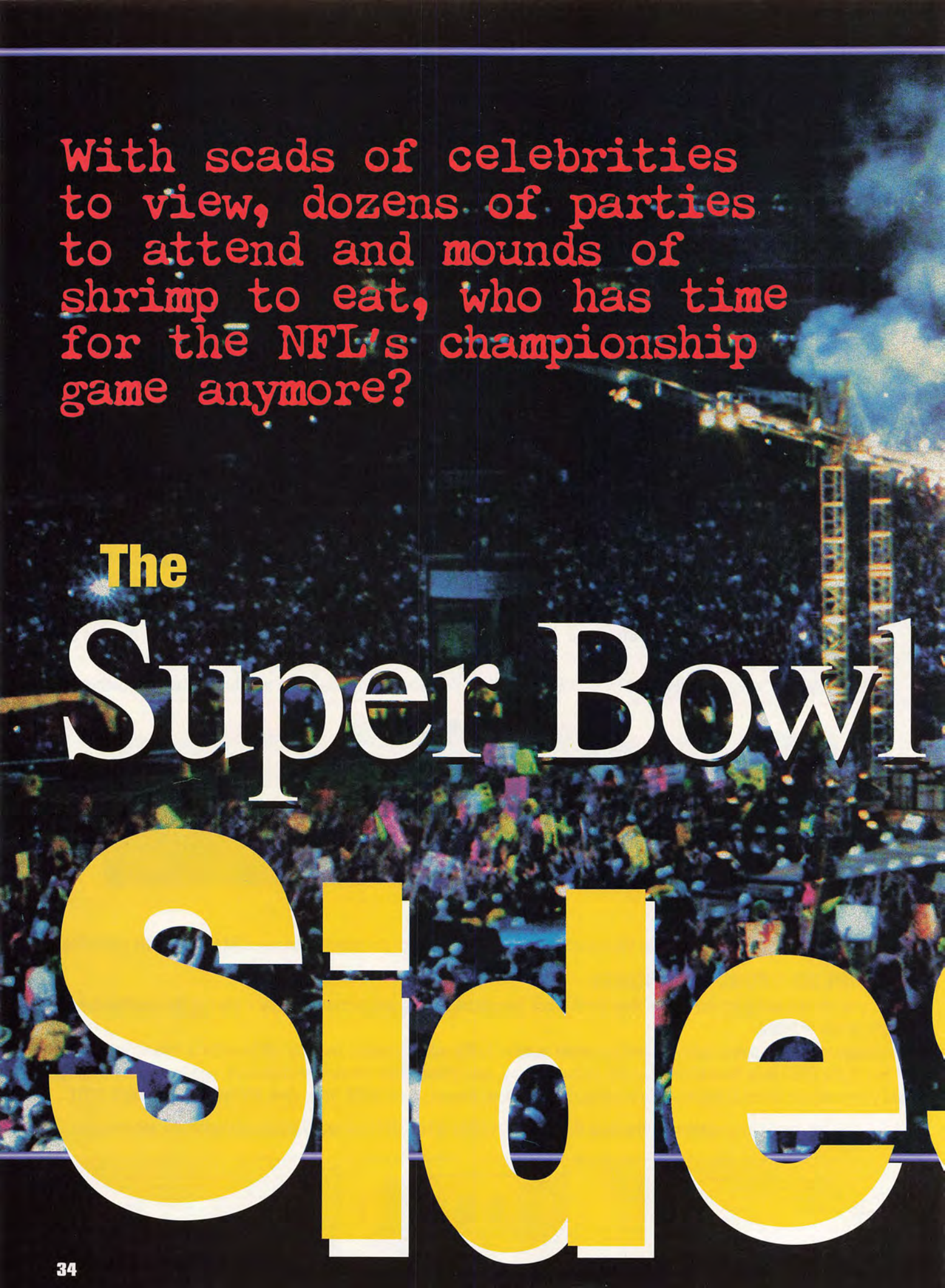
Simply send your name, address, and telephone number to the address below, and you will be entered into a drawing for a trip for two to the 2002 Hula Bowl Maui. The trip includes travel, accommodations for two for four days, and two tickets to the game. Send your entry to: Street & Smith's Sports Group, 342 Madison Avenue, Suite 2008, New York, NY 10017, Attn: HBM/2002

Call for travel information to the Hula Bowl Maui, (808) 871 - 4141, or www.hulabowlmaui@datasports.com

1) OFFICIAL RULES: No purchase necessary. Entrant may enter the sweepstakes by mailing their name, address, and telephone number to "Street & Smith's, 342 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017. Entries for the drawing must be received by November 1, 2001. Only completed entries will be eligible. Not responsible for lost, late, damaged, misdirected, illegible, or postage-due mail. Only one entry per entrant. 2) One winner will receive a three-night stay with accommodations, for two persons on January 17, 18, 19, 2002. Expenses for air and ground transportation, four (4) days accommodations for two persons will be paid by Hula Bowl Maui. Meals not included. The winner will be selected in a random drawing on or about November 2, 2001, of all entries, by the publisher of Street & Smith's Sports Group, whose decision is final. The prize is not transferable and has an approximate retail value of \$5,000. No substitution prize except by sponsor in case of unavailability, in which case a prize of equal or greater value will be substituted. Winner will be notified by mail and may be required to complete an affidavit of eligibility and



a liability/publicity release, which must be returned within thirty (30) days of date of notification, or alternate winner may be selected. Winner (and travel companion) may be required to execute releases of sponsor(s) from any and all liability with respect to winners' participation in the sweepstakes and/or prize. Income and other taxes, if any, are responsibility of the winner. Acceptance of prize constitutes permission to use the winner's name and likeness for editorial, advertising, and publicity purposes without additional compensation. 3) Sweepstakes is open to legal U.S. residents 18 years or older as of date of entry, except employees of Street & Smith's Sports Group. Odds of winning are determined by the total number of entries received. Subject to federal, state, and local rules and regulations. Void in Puerto Rico, outside the United States, and where prohibited. All entries become the property of sponsor and will not be acknowledged or returned. 4) For name of winner, send a self-addressed envelope after November 2, 2001 but before November 17, 2001 to Street & Smith's 342 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017.



With scads of celebrities to view, dozens of parties to attend and mounds of shrimp to eat, who has time for the NFL's championship game anymore?

The
Super Bowl
Sides



By Pete Williams

Kurt Warner glanced over his shoulder, then looked upfield. As the crowd roared, he found his blockers, then darted 20 yards until he ran into ... hundreds of cans of Campbell's Chunky Soup.

Warner, the star of Super Bowl XXXIV at Atlanta in 2000, had returned to the big event in 2001, this time for one of the countless events that render the game itself all but a sideshow. Here he was, in a ballroom at the Tampa Convention Center, wearing a generic red jersey and squaring off with fellow Campbell's spokesman Terrell Davis. ESPN's Joe Theismann, dressed as a referee with very good hair, provided color commentary to a group of cheering schoolchildren.

Thirty years ago, the Super Bowl was little more than a football game. These days, it's a weeklong, over-the-top, shameless display of celebrity worship and corporate excess. Says Warner: "It seems like the football game is the last thing on your mind."

SHOW

If you're a fan looking to go to the game, plan to fork over at least \$1,500 for a scalped ticket with a \$325-\$400 face value—if you can find one. Remember, though, the Super Bowl is not about regular fans; it's about the rich and famous flexing their connections. It's about corporate barons pretending to be celebrities, actors worshipping athletes and athletes sucking up to actors.

Where else can you find Aerosmith and 'N Sync sharing a dais to discuss their mutual admiration? Or Jay Leno darting from party to party like a college kid out on fraternity row? Or a non-sports figure like MTV personality Carson Daly holding court everywhere? Or veteran rocker Sting, a native of England, posing awkwardly in a quarterback's stance and trying to explain to a group of fawning entertainment "journalists" how he'd never be invited to perform at a soccer match in his native country.

"Having bands play in England wouldn't go over very well," Sting says. "It gets in the way of the fighting."

At the Super Bowl, football talk gets in the way of celebrity-watching. While ESPN, CNN/SI, Fox Sports Net and dozens of local television affiliates from across the country descend upon the Super Bowl site at least a week before the game, the event has become strictly an "Entertainment Tonight" and *People* magazine affair.

Tampa: the 'Survivor' Bowl

It's not necessarily an A-list event. After all, most top celebrities do not want to mingle with the general public, even if the general public at the Super Bowl is mostly the famous and the "almost famous." Most of the "celebrities" are of the 15-minutes-of-fame variety, such as the latest boy band du jour or the castaway stars from "Survivor."

In Tampa, it was hard to attend a party or event without running into one of the castaways from the original "Survivor," no doubt capitalizing on

the one year they were big enough to be invited. After all, does anyone expect the fame of people like Richard Hatch, Gervase Peterson or Jenna Lewis to last until Super Bowl XXXVI in New Orleans? (Let's hope not.) Then again, the Super Bowl also attracts the formerly famous such as the rock group Styx, on hand last year to perform after what seemed to be a two-decade hiatus.



Jenna Lewis
& Gervase
Peterson



Richard Hatch

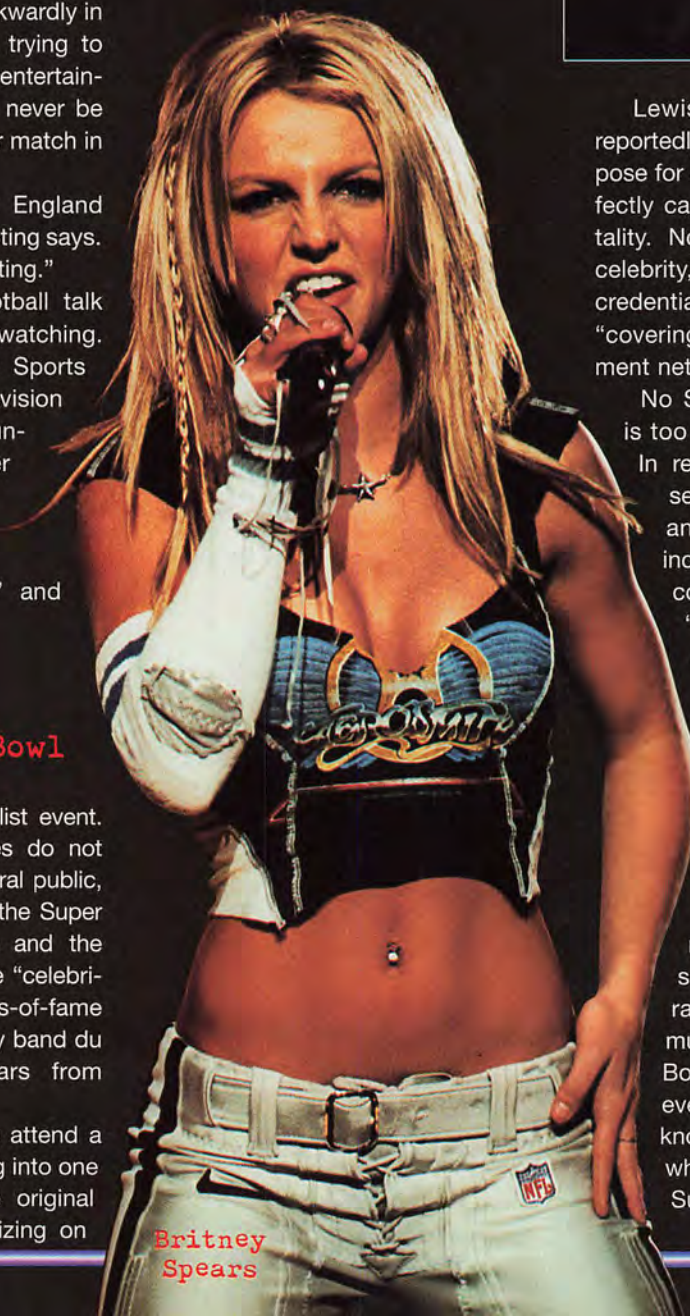
Lewis, the sexy survivor who reportedly turned down \$500,000 to pose for *Playboy*, seemed to have perfectly captured the Super Bowl mentality. Not only was she a modest celebrity, she was also one of 3,300 credentialed members of the press, "covering" events for an entertainment network.

No Super Bowl angle, it seems, is too obscure to warrant coverage. In recent years, *USA Today* has sent an army of 13 reporters and six photographers—not including Lewis, an occasional contributor—to make sure the "nation's newspaper" does not miss a single moment of exaggerated Americana.

Radio ga ga

For Super Bowl XXXIV in Atlanta, the NFL issued 3,476 credentials to 857 news organizations. Many seem to represent sports radio stations, which occupy much of the lobby at the Super Bowl media center. Anyone with even a hint of celebrity status knows better than to get anywhere near "radio row" during Super Bowl week.

Better to hang out at the



Britney
Spears

many parties. Not that celebrities linger long at the ice sculpture-and-shrimp affairs. The idea is to accumulate a stack of glossy, hologramed, anti-counterfeit invites, then spend evenings traveling through town by limousine, stopping just long enough to make a grand entrance, then a quiet exit through a side door.



**Super Bowl
Media
Center**

At one time the NFL commissioner's party was the premier event. It's still a lively affair, with jugglers and painted models and tons of high-priced catering. But true insiders find their way to the exclusive, out-of-the-way parties hosted by *Playboy* and *Maxim* magazines, where supermodels and superbabes are the main attractions. Or to the Saturday afternoon gathering hosted by sports agents Leigh Steinberg and Jeff Moorad. Usually held outdoors at a top area attraction, it's a staggering display of silicone, hair gél and Ray-Bans. As consultants for the movie "Jerry Maguire," the agents use the event to further blend sports and entertainment.

Celebrity death march

While the two participating teams must deal with a daily onslaught of media attention, hundreds of other NFL players come to town to be worshipped

Most of the 'celebrities' are of the 15-minutes-of-fame variety, such as the latest boy band du jour or the castaway stars from 'Survivor.'

for a week, eat mountains of shrimp, play video games and, like Warner and Davis, fulfill their sponsor requests.

Only at the Super Bowl can you attend a party hosted by the likes of EA Sports and find Ricky Williams sitting in front of a monitor navigating his video counterpart downfield. Or attend the NFL Players' Association party—sponsored by video game maker 989 Sports, of course—and see Emmitt Smith and Daunte Culpepper chatting with LL Cool J and Tyson Beckford.

Appealing to the proletariat

Of course, to get the true NFL experience, it helps to attend the NFL Experience, an NFL merchandise store thinly disguised as a football carnival. Usually constructed in a series of tents and AstroTurf fields next to the host stadium, the event is touted by the NFL as the next-best thing for fans who cannot attend the game itself.

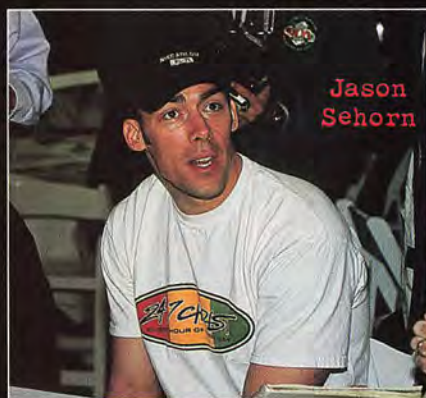
Translation: a way for the league to make money from folks not rich or famous enough to attend the Super Bowl.

For a mere \$15, fans can fight crowds, see a few NFL exhibits, navigate their way through a cavernous tent of NFL merchandise, and pay \$6 for a small chicken sandwich or hamburger. Come to think of it, that really is the NFL experience.

With so much going on, is it any wonder that the game itself often fails

to live up to expectations? If nothing else, it's mostly a welcome break in the host city following six days of corporate schmoozing, although the hospitality tents in the parking lot remain open for corporate VIPs hours after the game ends.

New York Giants cornerback Jason Sehorn seems to have mastered Super Bowl week. He's marketed himself effectively to the corporate world, obtaining numerous endorsements, and appeals to the "Access Hollywood" crowd through his relationship with actress Angie Harmon. After spending six Super Bowls attending parties and being just another celebrity, he became perhaps the biggest star of all by actually playing in the game last January.



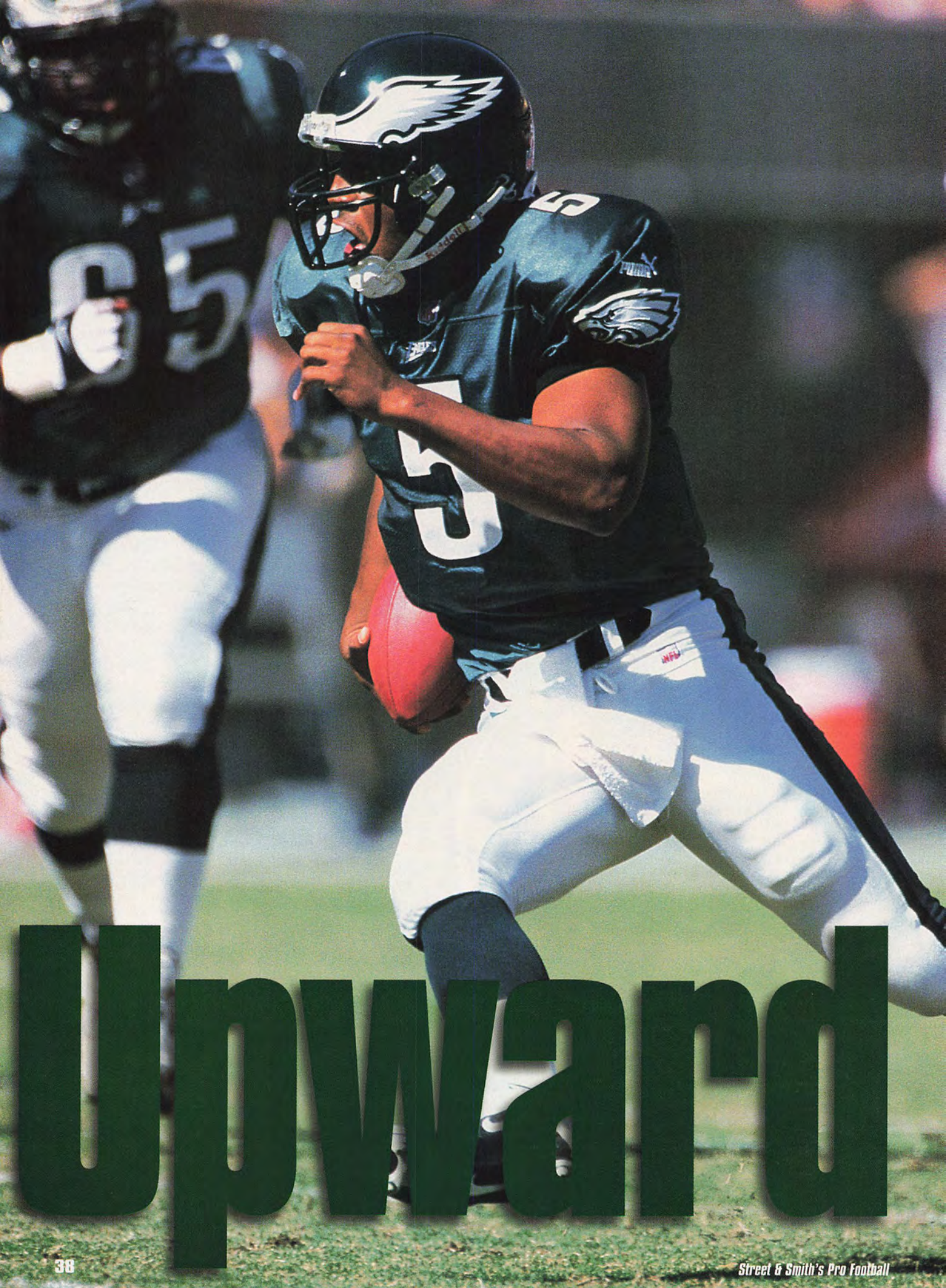
**Jason
Sehorn**

No matter that Sehorn had a terrible Super Bowl in the Giants' embarrassing loss to the Ravens. After all, the week is now as much about building visibility as it is building a game plan.

"I liken it to the circus," Sehorn said, adjusting a baseball cap with one of his sponsors' logos so that it would appear in view of cameras. "It's the biggest show in the world."



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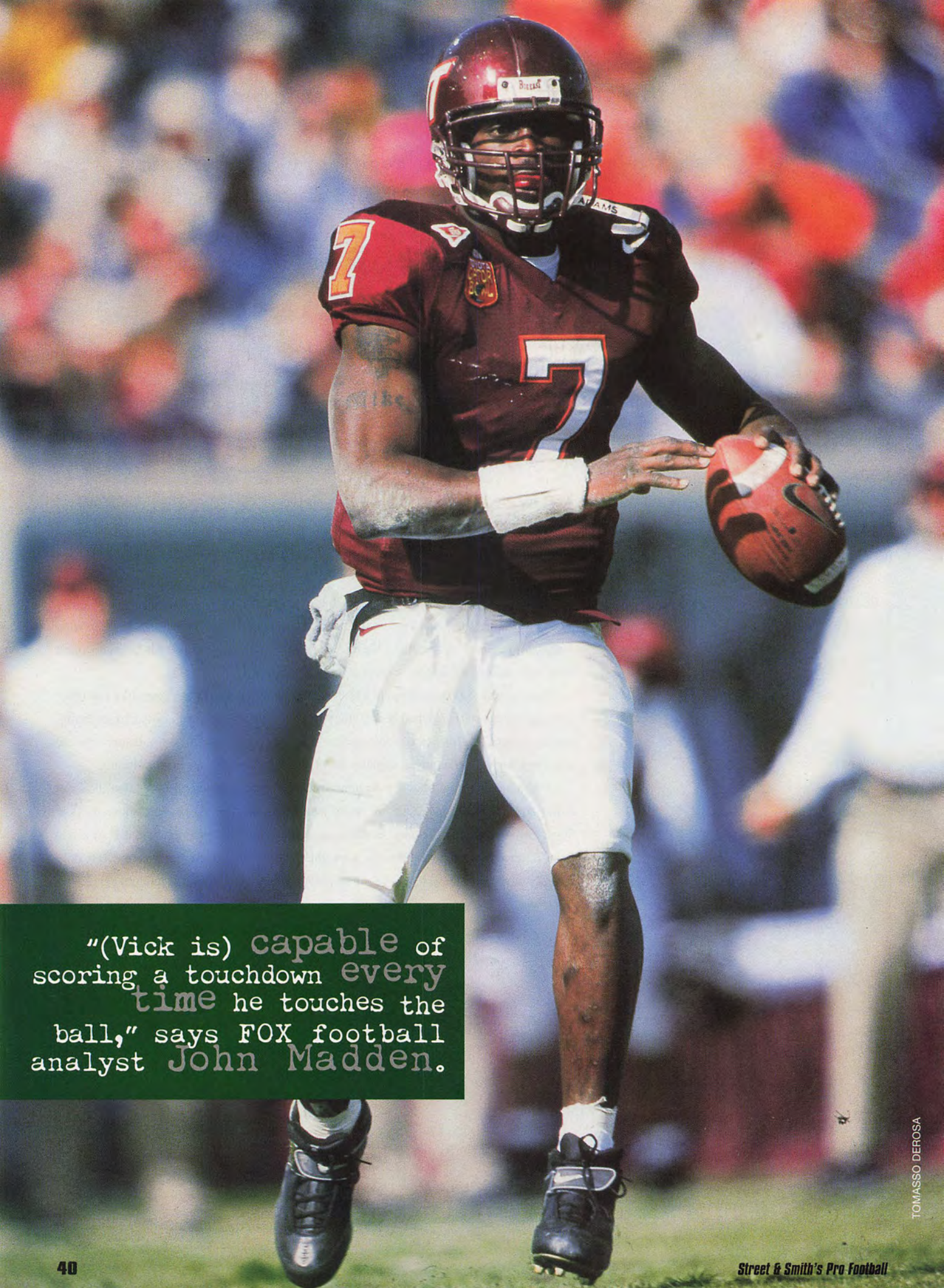
By Pete Williams

It was only a few years ago that a player with the speed and athleticism of Donovan McNabb would be converted into a defensive back or a wide receiver in the NFL. Daunte Culpepper, all 6-4, 260 pounds of him, might have been shifted to defensive end.

Now, after a 2000 campaign in which the two dominated NFL defenses like few other second-year quarterbacks had before, they're at the forefront of league-wide transformation in the pocket. Instead of looking for traditional, drop-back passers, teams now are searching for versatile players equally adept at avoiding the rush and scrambling.

The transition might have gone unnoticed by the casual football fan. After all, Trent Dilfer and Kerry Collins, a pair of one-dimensional, lead-footed passers, squared off in Super Bowl XXXV in January. Besides, any era of the NFL has included at least a few Fran Tarkentons and Steve Youngs, scramblers who could throw on the run. But only recently have many NFL teams begun to build around faster, more-athletic players.

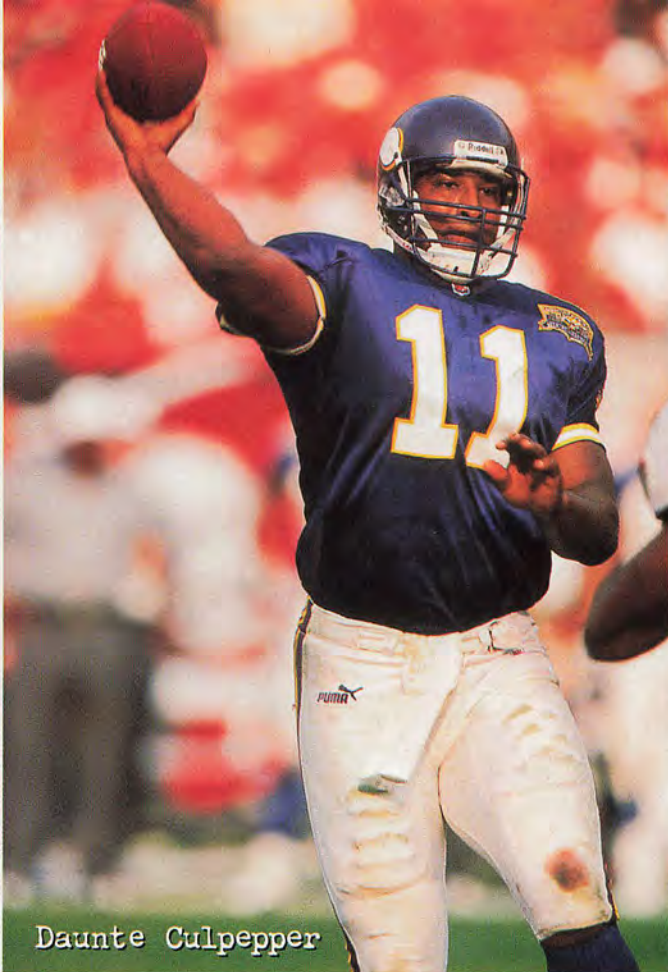
Mobility



"(Vick is) capable of scoring a touchdown every time he touches the ball," says FOX football analyst John Madden.



Jeff Garcia



Daunte Culpepper

"You've got three mobile quarterbacks (in the Pro Bowl) and that says a lot about where the game has gone in the past few years."
—Donovan McNabb

New breed steps up

It's perhaps no coincidence that players such as Troy Aikman and Vinny Testaverde are either retiring or winding down their careers at the same time a younger, faster group of quarterbacks is taking over the league. Consider this year's Pro Bowl rosters. While Brett Favre and Kurt Warner stayed home, the NFC squad was represented by Culpepper, McNabb and San Francisco's Jeff Garcia, another athletic, scrambling quarterback.

"You've got three mobile quarterbacks (in the Pro Bowl) and that says a lot about where the game has gone in the past few years," says McNabb, 24. "The game has changed where now you have guys who are able to move around in the pocket to find their receivers and be more involved in the offense."

Involved? McNabb accounted for three-fourths of the Eagles' offense in 2000, passing for 3,365 yards and 21 touchdowns and rushing for 629 yards and six touchdowns to lead Philadelphia to its first playoff berth in five seasons. Culpepper, a third-string quarterback as a rookie who was considered a long-term project before the 2000 season, threw for 3,937 yards and a league-high 33 touchdowns, while rushing for 470 yards and seven touchdowns.

Garcia passed for an NFC-best 4,278 yards and 31 touchdowns in his second NFL season, while rushing for 414 yards and five more

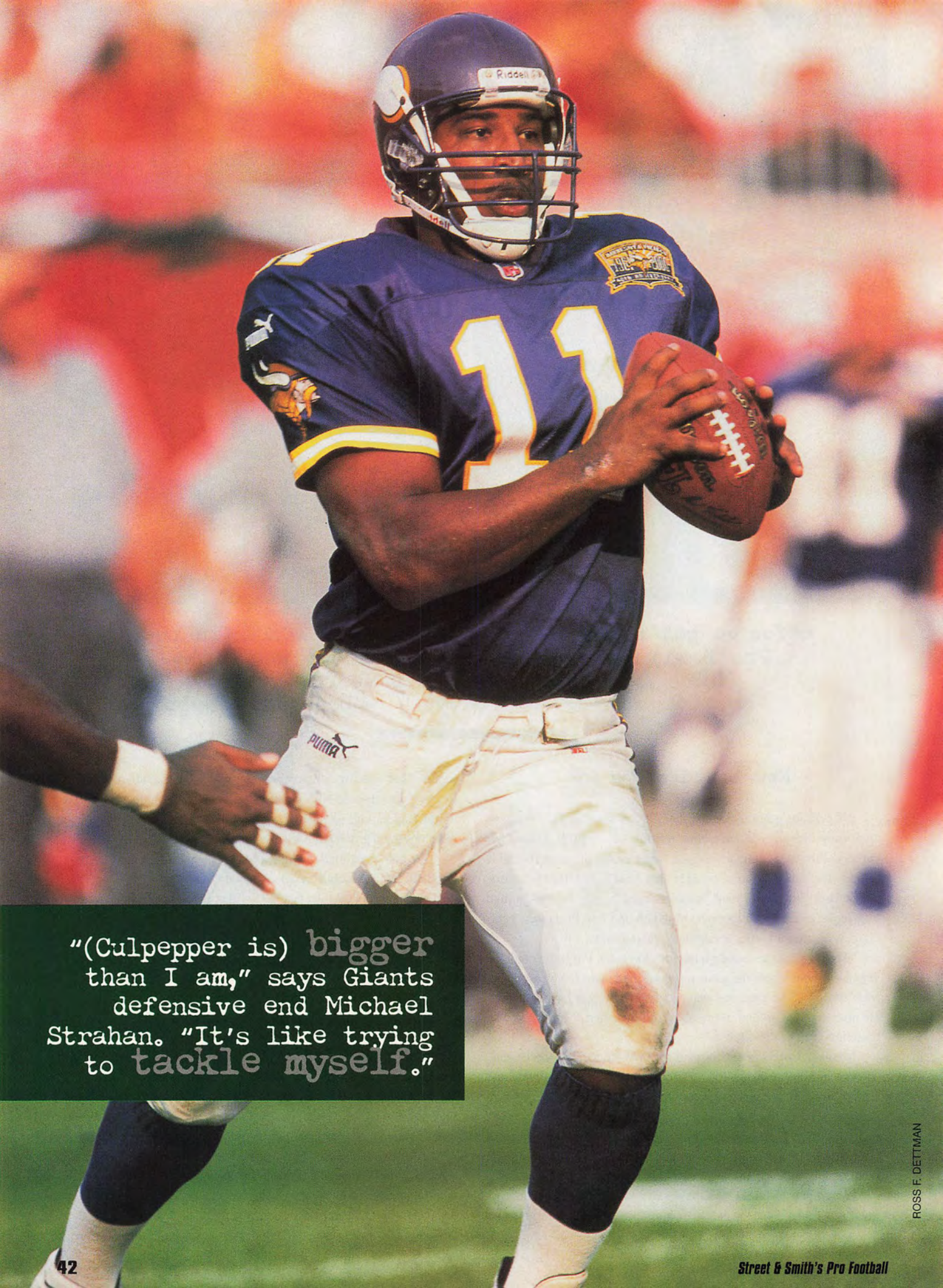
scores. Not bad for a five-year veteran of the Canadian Football League, which some NFL personnel types have long dismissed as a minor league with its smaller, run-oriented quarterbacks presumed to be neither big enough nor strong enough for the NFL.

But just as Warner proved in 1999 that the fast-paced Arena Football League could serve as good preparation for the NFL, Garcia might have shown last season that the modern NFL quarterback is not all that unlike his CFL counterparts. "Certain stereotypes are put out there as far as what scouts would like to see from players and they forget about what actually takes place on the field," Garcia says.

Vick could offer new standard

It's not just guys like McNabb and Culpepper breaking the stereotypes. Long before he was made the No. 1 pick of the 2001 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons, Michael Vick was touted as the next player to revolutionize the position. Vick runs the 40-yard dash in 4.25 seconds, faster than many running backs and wide receivers.

"He's capable of scoring a touchdown every time he touches the ball," says FOX football analyst John Madden. "I really believe that the quarterback of the future in the NFL is going to be more about running, along with being able to throw the ball."



"(Culpepper is) bigger
than I am," says Giants
defensive end Michael
Strahan. "It's like trying
to tackle myself."

A preview of the NFL future might have come during this year's Gator Bowl, when Vick squared off against Clemson's Woodrow Dantzler. Already the shift to more athletic quarterbacks in the pros has had a trickle-down effect to the college ranks as coaches imitate the success of NFL teams.

"If you look at guys like Culpepper and McNabb and what they can do, it's really going to open up the quarterback position in college football," says Clemson coach Tommy Bowden. "You'll start to see a lot more shotgun teams with athletic quarterbacks."

Staying one step ahead of the rush

Part of the change is by necessity. A quarterback in 2001 must be quick enough to get past speedy, 245-pound linebackers like Ray Lewis and also withstand the pounding of 300-pound linemen such as Warren Sapp. While quarterbacks still need the arms of Hall-of-Famers such as Len Dawson and Johnny Unitas, they're required to be faster and quicker.

Not surprisingly, the new-age quarterbacks have the all-around skills to thrive in other sports. McNabb was a reserve on the Syracuse University basketball team and has incorporated his roundball fakes and jukes into his football game. Culpepper, a three-sport star in high school, was recruited by the University of Kentucky basketball team and drafted by the New York Yankees.

"If you look at guys like Culpepper and McNabb and what they can do, it's really going to open up the quarterback position in college football," says Clemson coach Tommy Bowden.

Vick has not played organized baseball since high school, but that didn't stop the Colorado Rockies from taking a flyer on him in the 30th round of the 2000 Major League Baseball Draft.

"When you can run like him, our feeling was he could cover some ground for us in the outfield," says Rockies Scouting Director Bill Schmidt. "Michael Jordan tried baseball. Maybe (Vick) might want to make a run at it."

Daunte's dominance

There might be no better example of the evolution of the quarterback than Culpepper, who is believed to be the largest full-time quarterback ever in the NFL. Besides throwing the ball up to 85 yards, he can bench-press 400 pounds and squat more than 500. He can dunk a basketball and even has three-point range.

Culpepper's size and speed allow him to brush aside some pass rushers to buy time in the pocket or run over linebackers while rushing. Unlike most quarterbacks who slide rather than take a hit, Culpepper is sometimes the one delivering the punishment.

"He's bigger than I am," says Giants defensive end Michael



Donovan McNabb



Steve McNair

Strahan. "It's like trying to tackle myself. He doesn't just scramble, he fights for the first down."

Before the 1999 draft, some teams dismissed Culpepper, who played his college ball at tiny Central Florida, as being too big to play quarterback at the next level. Not Minnesota's Dennis Green, who saw him as the epitome of the next generation of NFL signal-callers.

"Quarterbacks keep getting bigger and more athletic and he is leading the way," Green says. "I think he brings the whole idea of what the NFL is going to be for probably the next 10 or 12 years."

Erasing stereotypes

In another era, Culpepper and McNabb might not have gotten a chance to play quarterback in the NFL. Doug Williams, the only black quarterback to start a Super Bowl until Steve McNair led the Tennessee Titans there two seasons ago, suggested as recently as the early 1990s that racism played a role in the lack of quarterback opportunities for black players.

Back then, statistics seemed to back Williams' claims. As recently as 1994, Florida State star and Heisman Trophy winner Charlie Ward opted for the NBA rather than change positions in the NFL. But last season eight black quarterbacks started in the NFL.

**"It's a changing
of the guard," says
Warren Sapp.
Players have gotten
bigger and faster at
every position . . ."**

"It's great to see because 20 years ago these guys weren't getting a chance to play," says Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach Tony Dungy, a quarterback at the University of Minnesota in the 1970s and a defensive back in the NFL. "I thought I could have played after looking at some of the quarterbacks who played when I played defense."

McNabb bristles at the suggestion that he's an athletic quarterback, as if he gets by on spin moves and speed alone. "When I hear someone say 'running quarterback,' that sort of upsets me," he says. "That takes away from my drop-back abilities. I'd rather be known as a quarterback who happens to be athletic."

Chidi Ahanotu has no problem with that description. After McNabb demolished the Buccaneers in the first round of the 2000 playoffs, the then-Tampa Bay defensive end was left shaking his head. "With all the dimensions he brings to the table, he might be the best quarterback in football right now. How do you stop him? How do you slow him down? I wish I knew."

It's a question NFL defenses might have to answer more often. Just as the 1983 "Quarterback Draft" of Dan Marino, Jim Kelly and John Elway forever changed the face of football, the class of 1999 with Culpepper and McNabb could signal the beginning of a new era.

"It's a changing of the guard," says the Buccaneers' Sapp. "Players have gotten bigger and faster at every position and you're now seeing a whole new generation of players. Why should the quarterbacks be any different?"



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□ Idaho.....	\$550,000	□ Tennessee.....	\$2,110,000
□ Illinois.....	\$1,075,000	□ Texas.....	\$2,175,000
□ Indiana.....	\$965,000	□ Texas A&M.....	\$1,265,000
□ Iowa.....	\$350,000	□ Texas Christian.....	\$835,000
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□ Kansas.....	\$1,730,000	□ Texas Tech.....	\$750,000
□ Kentucky.....	\$660,000	□ Toledo.....	\$1,000,000
□ Louisiana Tech.....	\$510,000	□ Tulane.....	\$610,000
□ Louisville.....	\$1,100,000	□ UCLA.....	\$1,625,000
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Every Point Scored = 1 point

Bonus Points (Offense)

Passing Yards over 300 = 5 points

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Every Sack Allowed = 1 point

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Every Sack = 1 point

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26th - 100th Place.....	\$50

Weekly Prizes

1st Place.....	\$300
2nd Place.....	\$200
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5th Place.....	\$50
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TOMASSO DE ROSA

A new study on NFL fan support shows what many fans in the Midwest have been saying for years—they're the best.

By G. Scott Thomas

Street & Smith's SportsBusiness Journal

The Cleveland Browns limped into 2000's final home game on December 17 with a 3-12 record and a four-game losing streak. Yet, Browns Stadium still sold out.

The Kansas City Chiefs were a mediocre 6-8 when they took the field the same day to wrap up their home schedule. And Arrowhead Stadium was sold out.

The Green Bay Packers had only a microscopic chance of qualifying for the playoffs in their final home game. The wind chill was minus 15, it was Christmas Eve ... and Lambeau Field was sold out.

Such loyalty is the reason why Cleveland, Kansas City and Green Bay swept the top three places in a study of NFL fan support conducted by *Street & Smith's SportsBusiness Journal*, a sister publication of *Street & Smith's Pro Football*.

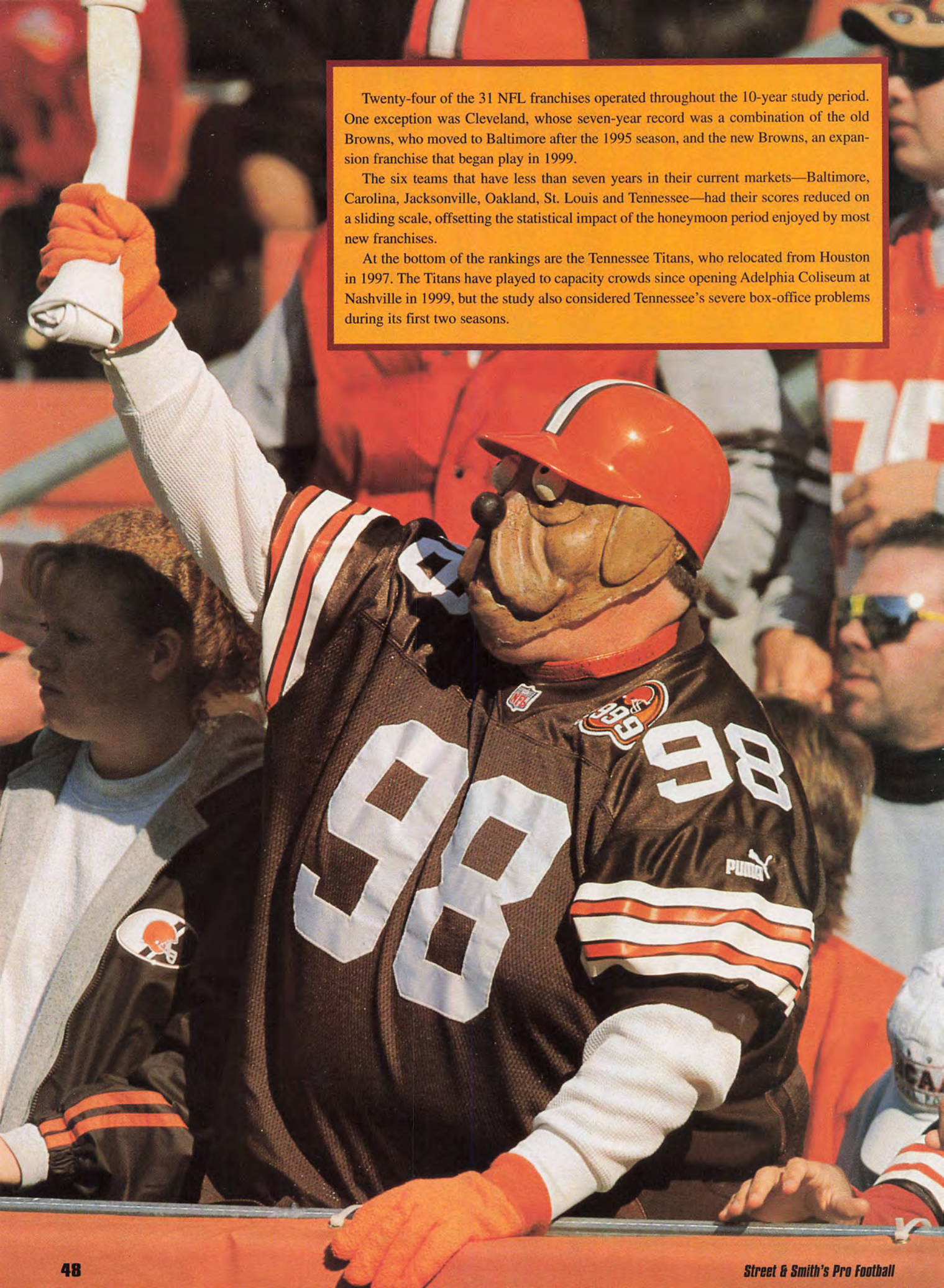
We set out to identify the NFL's best fans. Not the ones who turn out in strong numbers for a winning team, but the ones who stay loyal even if their team is losing, the weather is frightful or their local market is small.

Cleveland fans earned first place by routinely filling their stadium despite the dismal play of the Browns, who have won only five of 32 games since returning to the league in 1999. Kansas City and Green Bay both posted winning records during the last decade, but they earned high marks for drawing capacity crowds despite small markets and bone-chilling weather.

Rounding out the top 10 are the Philadelphia Eagles, New York Giants, Cincinnati Bengals, Washington Redskins, Denver Broncos, Buffalo Bills and Baltimore Ravens.

Each NFL team's performance was analyzed in seven categories for the period of 1991-2000, including average attendance, stadium capacity, on-field record, area population, ticket prices, weather and the difference in attendance for winning and losing seasons.

The top team, Cleveland, was awarded an overall score of 100 points. All other scores were based off of that benchmark.



Twenty-four of the 31 NFL franchises operated throughout the 10-year study period. One exception was Cleveland, whose seven-year record was a combination of the old Browns, who moved to Baltimore after the 1995 season, and the new Browns, an expansion franchise that began play in 1999.

The six teams that have less than seven years in their current markets—Baltimore, Carolina, Jacksonville, Oakland, St. Louis and Tennessee—had their scores reduced on a sliding scale, offsetting the statistical impact of the honeymoon period enjoyed by most new franchises.

At the bottom of the rankings are the Tennessee Titans, who relocated from Houston in 1997. The Titans have played to capacity crowds since opening Adelphia Coliseum at Nashville in 1999, but the study also considered Tennessee's severe box-office problems during its first two seasons.

Cleveland top dog in NFL pound

Team-by-team analysis

1. Cleveland Browns

Strengths: The old and new Browns share a record of on-field ineptitude, winning about one-third of their games since 1991. But their fans have been remarkably loyal. Cleveland is one of five NFL cities to draw more than 70,000 a game during the last decade.

Drawbacks: No visible problems now. But how long will Cleveland's savvy fans put up with a bumbling expansion team?

Bottom line: Art Modell might disagree, but the Browns clearly enjoy the best fan support in the NFL.

2. Kansas City Chiefs

Strengths: The Chiefs have packed 76,047 per game into Arrowhead Stadium since 1991, the top figure in the league. Only 7 percent of their seats went unoccupied during their worst year of the decade, 1998.

Drawbacks: The loyalty of Chiefs fans hasn't been tested too strenuously. The team's win percentage for the decade is a robust .613.

Bottom line: Kansas City is a relatively small market that stands tall at the box office.

3. Green Bay Packers

Strengths: This is the NFL's smallest—and coldest—market. Yet Green Bay keeps packing Lambeau Field. Packers fans filled 97.7 percent of seats during the last 10 years, second only to Philadelphia. Every season since 1994 has been above 98 percent.

Drawbacks: One question looms: Can tiny Green Bay continue thriving as the cost of doing business in the NFL skyrockets?

Bottom line: The Green Bay metro area has just 200,000 residents, yet it holds its own with the league's giants.

4. Philadelphia Eagles

Strengths: Pick your adjective. Philadelphia fans can be loud, abusive and hostile. But they're also loyal. The Eagles play before a full house every Sunday, hitting 99.5 percent of capacity since 1991.

Drawbacks: Sellouts aren't as difficult in Philadelphia as in most NFL cities. The market is one of the league's largest, and tickets are relatively affordable.

Bottom line: The Eagles have been inconsistent on the field, but their fans have always been among the NFL's best.

5. New York Giants

Strengths: The Giants have drawn 72,414 per home game since 1991. Only Kansas City, Denver and Buffalo rank higher in average attendance. Year-to-year fluctuations at Giants Stadium have been mild.

Drawbacks: Who couldn't draw well in New York? The metro area has 20 million residents. That's 100 times larger than Green Bay.

Bottom line: The Giants easily win the battle of the Meadowlands. They rank fifth in fan support, while the Jets are 14th.

6. Cincinnati Bengals

Strengths: This is the toughest NFL team to support, ranking first in difficulty factors. The Bengals' 10-year winning percentage is a pitiful .294. Cincinnati is among the league's smallest markets and tickets are costly. However, fans have filled 85 percent of seats since 1991.

Drawbacks: The Bengals haven't ranked among the 20 best teams in per-game attendance since 1992.

Bottom line: Cincinnati fans deserve a collective medal for outstanding performance under adversity.

7. Washington Redskins

Strengths: A new facility worked wonders in Washington. The Redskins led the NFL in attendance last season. And they've been in the top 10 every year since FedEx Field opened in 1997, despite consistently missing the playoffs.

Drawbacks: Attendance holds fairly steady from year to year in NFC East markets such as Dallas, Philadelphia and New York—but it fluctuates a bit more in Washington.

Bottom line: This season's Redskins weren't the best team that money could buy, but their fans did well.

8. Denver Broncos

Strengths: Color them blue and orange. Denver fans have filled 73,371 seats per game since 1991, second-best in the NFL. That works out to 96.3 percent of capacity at Mile High Stadium, sixth in the league.

Drawbacks: How hard is it to be a Broncos fan? The team has a .625 win percentage and two Super Bowl titles in the last decade.

Bottom line: Denver is a great pro sports town, also supporting baseball's Rockies and hockey's Avalanche in style. But the Broncos are the local favorite.

9. Buffalo Bills

Strengths: Only the hardiest souls can withstand a winter wind whipping off Lake Erie, but Buffalo fans are up to the challenge. The Bills' average attendance since 1991 is 72,930 per game, third in the NFL.

Drawbacks: The team's winning percentage of .613 has made it considerably easier for fans to brave the gales of December.

Bottom line: Green Bay is the only NFL town that's colder. Only two markets are smaller. Yet Buffalo is annually among the league's box-office leaders.

10. Baltimore Ravens

Strengths: The Ravens have been around for five years, filling 96.4 percent of seats despite an on-field mark of .456. They've ranked 10th in per-game attendance each of the last three seasons.

Drawbacks: Locals don't like to admit it, but support for the Colts gradually eroded in the early 1980s. Will the same eventually happen to the Ravens?

Bottom line: Art Modell traded No. 1 Cleveland for No. 10 Baltimore. Not a great deal, but not a terrible one, either, when you consider he got a Super Bowl ring out of it.

11. Dallas Cowboys

Strengths: Cowboys fans are consistent. They filled 99.6 percent of Texas Stadium in 1995, their best year of the decade. And they occupied 96 percent in 2000, their worst year. The fluctuation of 3.6 points is the NFL's smallest.

Drawbacks: Times are tougher now, but the Cowboys were so good for so long that rooting for them has been relatively painless.

Bottom line: If the current rebuilding effort fails, will Dallas' fan support hold? The rest of the league is eager to see.

12. Chicago Bears

Strengths: The "Monsters of the Midway" are a distant memory. Recent Bears teams have been lousy (.419 winning percentage in the last decade), yet Chicago fans have filled a respectable 86 percent of seats at Soldier Field. Year-to-year fluctuations have been moderate.

Drawbacks: The arrow is pointing downward. The Bears have ranked 26th or worse in attendance each season since 1997.

Bottom line: Bears fans have endured a long dry spell, but they seem to be losing their patience.

13. Jacksonville Jaguars

Strengths: This young franchise has prospered on the field and at the gate. Its per-game attendance of 67,291 ranks eighth in the NFL for the decade. And that's despite the fact that Jacksonville is the league's second-smallest market.

Drawbacks: The Jags slipped out of playoff contention last season, and attendance slipped, too. Jacksonville ranked 20th in attendance in 2000.

Bottom line: Will Jacksonville fans remain loyal to a losing team? The jury is still out.

14. New York Jets

Strengths: The Jets have drawn 65,429 per game since 1991, placing them ninth in the NFL. That's particularly impressive because the Jets had the league's sixth-worst winning percentage during the decade at .425.

Drawbacks: See the Giants' entry above. There's no reason why the Jets, blessed with America's biggest market, shouldn't sell out every week.

Bottom line: The good news is the Jets ranked fourth in attendance in 2000. The bad news is the Giants were third.

15. Miami Dolphins

Strengths: The Dolphins rank sixth in average attendance, drawing 69,043 per home date during the last decade. That translates to 93.2 percent of capacity, the NFL's 11th-best mark in that category.

Drawbacks: It really isn't that difficult to be a Dolphins fan. The team is usually competitive (.588), and the weather is the league's warmest.

Bottom line: Miami is between Florida's other NFL teams in fan support. Not as good as Jacksonville, but considerably better than Tampa Bay.

16. San Diego Chargers

Strengths: Chargers fans must overcome imposing obstacles, such as steep ticket prices (the NFL's fourth-highest compared to local income levels) and generally poor teams (1-15 in 2000, .431 winning percentage since 1991).

Drawbacks: Just 14 franchises failed to sell at least 90 percent of their tickets during the decade. The Chargers (86.7 percent) were among them.

Bottom line: The bottom fell out for the Chargers last season on the field and at the gate. San Diego finished 29th in attendance in 2000.

17. St. Louis Rams

Strengths: The honeymoon continues for the Rams, who relocated to St. Louis from Los Angeles six years ago. The team has played to 95.5 percent of capacity at Trans World Dome, the seventh-best mark in the NFL.

Drawbacks: Why wouldn't St. Louis support its team? The Rams are still fairly new to town, they have an explosive offense and they won the Super Bowl two years ago.

Bottom line: Rams fans would rank higher, but their loyalty really hasn't been tested yet.

18. Indianapolis Colts

Strengths: The Colts have filled 90.5 percent of their seats since 1991, even though Indianapolis is the seventh-smallest market in the league. An additional impediment is the team's .431 winning percentage for the decade.

Drawbacks: The RCA Dome is the NFL's smallest facility, keeping the Colts' per-game attendance down to 53,876 for the decade. Just five teams have averaged less.

Bottom line: The dome is almost 20 years old. How long before the Colts ask for a new facility?

19. Carolina Panthers

Strengths: The market is small and tickets are costly, yet the Panthers have had a few good years at the box office. They ranked fifth in attendance in 1996 and 10th a year later.

Drawbacks: Most years have been worse, capped by 22nd place in 2000. The Panthers have played to just 83.1 percent of capacity since

starting play in 1995. Only four teams are lower.

Bottom line: Carolina entered the league with Jacksonville, but the Panthers have not matched the Jaguars' level of support.

20. Pittsburgh Steelers

Strengths: Pittsburgh fans have filled 93.4 percent of Three Rivers Stadium's seats during the last 10 years, a figure surpassed by only eight teams. Year-to-year fluctuations are mild.

Drawbacks: It's usually not a strain to root for the Steelers. Tickets are reasonable by NFL standards, and the team wins more often than not (.581 for the decade).

Bottom line: Pittsburgh fans consider themselves to be true die-hards. The painful reality is that they're below average.

21. Detroit Lions

Strengths: The Lions have finished as high in the attendance derby as third in 1995 and fifth in 2000. Their per-game average since 1991 is 68,334, seventh in the league.

Drawbacks: Detroit's attendance isn't so impressive when you consider that its ticket prices are second-lowest in the NFL, its market has a population of 5.5 million and the Pontiac Silverdome is climate-controlled.

Bottom line: Fifteen percent of the seats at a typical Lions game are empty. Detroit should do better than that.

22. San Francisco 49ers

Strengths: Attendance at 49ers games has averaged a solid 64,241 during the 10-year period. And only four teams have registered smaller year-to-year fluctuations than San Francisco.

Drawbacks: The 49ers are the easiest team to root for, ranking last in difficulty factors. San Francisco has a 10-year winning percentage of .656, the best in the NFL.

Bottom line: We finally may find out what 49ers fans are made of now that their salary-cap-ravaged team has hit the skids.

23. New England Patriots

Strengths: True Patriots fans have persevered despite mediocre football (.450 for the decade), an out-of-the-way stadium, a threatened franchise move and weather that's often nasty.

Drawbacks: The problem is a lack of true fans. Only 53,327 make their way to Foxboro for the typical game, worse than all but four franchises. Fluctuations between good and bad years have been sharp.

Bottom line: Boston is a top 10 market in terms of size, but it's in the bottom 10 in fan support.

24. Seattle Seahawks

Strengths: The Seahawks have had successful years at the box office. Like 1999, when they filled 99.9 percent of seats. Their 10-year mark of 84.7 percent isn't too bad, considering their .419 win percentage.

Drawbacks: But there have been some really awful years, too. Take 1995 and 1996, for instance, when more than 30 percent of the late, unlamented Kingdome was empty.

Bottom line: Inconsistency is Seattle's biggest problem. Only six teams have suffered sharper fluctuations in attendance.

25. New Orleans Saints

Strengths: This season's playoff run rekindled interest in the Saints. New Orleans finished 19th in attendance in 2000, up 10 places from the previous year.

Drawbacks: New Orleans is one of five teams to average fewer than 60,000 per game since 1991, play to less than 85 percent of capacity and fluctuate more than 40 percentage points from its best year to its worst.

Bottom line: The Saints weren't anything special during the 1990s. Neither were their fans.

26. Minnesota Vikings

Strengths: The Vikings have filled more than 99 percent of the Metrodome's seats during the last three years. And their 10-year share is a respectable 92.9 percent.

Drawbacks: The Vikings play in indoor comfort, have a flashy .625 win percentage for the decade and charge less for tickets than most teams. So why did they fall below 90 percent of capacity four years in the 1990s?

Bottom line: Vikings fans once had it too hard in frigid Metropolitan Stadium. They now have it too easy.

27. Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Strengths: Attendance has picked up as the Bucs' fortunes have improved. Tampa Bay has finished in the NFL's top 15 each year since 1997.

Drawbacks: Attendance was lousy when the Bucs' fortunes were poor. Tampa Bay finished in the NFL's bottom 10 five times between 1991 and 1996. It has attained just 76.9 percent of capacity since 1991, worse than every team but Arizona.

Bottom line: Fan support in Tampa Bay has gyrated up and down. Only Tennessee has suffered worse fluctuations.

28. Oakland Raiders

Strengths: Oakland has been slow to embrace the second coming of the Raiders, but 2000 brought signs of life. Fans filled 92 percent of Network Associates Coliseum for a spunky, playoff-bound team.

Drawbacks: Per-game attendance has been just 50,738 since 1995, a figure that would disappoint every franchise but Arizona and Tennessee.

Bottom line: It doesn't help that rumors have the Raiders considering a return to Los Angeles. Perhaps team officials forget they ranked dead last in fan support there.

29. Atlanta Falcons

Strengths: The Falcons usually play badly (.444 for the decade) but occasionally do well at the box office—as in 1993, when they sold 90 percent of tickets.

Drawbacks: But don't forget 1996, when they dropped to a miserable 59 percent. The Falcons, all in all, have played to just 77.5 percent of capacity since 1991, worse than all but two teams.

Bottom line: Atlanta fans are notorious front-runners. They didn't turn out for the Braves when they lost, so why would they support the Falcons?

30. Arizona Cardinals

Strengths: The Cardinals have subjected Arizonans to lousy football, as witnessed by their 10-year win percentage of .350. But fans will respond to progress. They filled 87 percent of seats during an upswing in 1994.

Drawbacks: No team has done worse than Arizona's 48,492 fans per game or 66.2 percent of capacity since 1991.

Bottom line: The Rams prosper, the Cardinals suffer. Moving from St. Louis to Phoenix still looks like one of the worst franchise shifts in sports history.

31. Tennessee Titans

Strengths: The last two seasons have been sunny. A new stadium and playoff-caliber teams—what's not to like? The Titans were 14th in the NFL in attendance in 1999 and 11th in 2000.

Drawbacks: Consider the whole picture. The Titans have averaged just 50,006 per game since arriving in Tennessee; only Arizona is lower. And nobody has suffered wilder fluctuations in attendance.

Bottom line: Tennessee fans didn't respond when their team was mediocre and in temporary quarters. Their long-term commitment remains highly suspect.

THE BEST AND THE WORST

Average attendance

- **Best:** Kansas City/10-year average of 76,047 per home game
- **Worst:** Arizona/48,492 average

Percent of capacity

- **Best:** Philadelphia/filled 99.5 percent of all seats from 1991-2000
- **Worst:** Arizona/66.2 percent

Attendance fluctuation

- **Best:** Dallas/occupied seats varied by 3.6 percent between the team's best and worst seasons from 1991-2000
- **Worst:** Tennessee/a fluctuation of 57.2 percent

Winning percentage

- **Best:** San Francisco and Tennessee/.656
- **Worst:** Cincinnati/.294

Seats per 100,000 population

- **Most:** Green Bay/28,122
- **Fewest:** New York Giants and New York Jets/393

Ticket cost compared with local income

- **Cheapest:** New York Giants/\$12.55 per \$10,000 in per-capita income
- **Most expensive:** Tampa Bay/\$24.79 per \$10,000 in per-capita income

December temperature

- **Highest:** Miami/76 degrees
- **Lowest:** Green Bay/29 degrees



NFL fan support rankings, 1991-2000

Rank	Team	Score	Support rank	Difficulty rank	Average attendance	Percent of capacity	Attendance fluctuation	Winning percentage	Seats per 100,000	Ticket cost per \$10,000	December temperature
1	Cleveland Browns*	100.00	9	2	70,270	91.2%	19.3	.366	2,518	\$15.25	36
2	Kansas City Chiefs	93.33	1	24	76,047	96.6%	6.6	.613	4,525	\$16.21	40
3	Green Bay Packers**	90.62	10	7	58,311	97.7%	9.7	.600	28,122	\$17.24	29
4	Philadelphia Eagles	90.60	3	16	64,651	99.5%	7.2	.509	1,089	\$14.10	43
5	New York Giants	88.00	4	19	72,414	93.1%	11.6	.516	393	\$12.55	42
6	Cincinnati Bengals	86.23	23	1	51,673	84.9%	18.8	.294	3,345	\$20.09	42
7	Washington Redskins	86.17	11	11	61,929	94.7%	13.2	.484	1,690	\$17.94	47
8	Denver Broncos	86.08	2	27	73,371	96.3%	3.9	.625	3,147	\$13.86	46
9	Buffalo Bills	85.87	6	18	72,930	92.4%	17.2	.613	6,465	\$17.95	35
10	Baltimore Ravens^	83.14	12	14	64,883	96.4%	9.7	.456	2,773	\$14.47	45
11	Dallas Cowboys	77.02	5	29	63,833	97.6%	3.6	.619	1,338	\$15.68	58
12	Chicago Bears	76.98	18	5	57,341	85.7%	13.0	.419	753	\$13.18	35
13	Jacksonville Jaguars^^	76.94	13	22	67,291	92.2%	13.5	.583	6,911	\$22.28	66
14	New York Jets	73.58	20	8	65,429	84.3%	35.5	.425	393	\$14.07	42
15	Miami Dolphins	73.19	7	28	69,043	93.2%	17.0	.588	2,026	\$17.46	76
16	San Diego Chargers	73.07	21	6	56,242	86.7%	22.3	.431	2,517	\$21.17	66
17	St. Louis Rams^^	73.02	14	21	62,090	95.5%	21.4	.469	2,569	\$14.73	72
18	Indianapolis Colts	69.80	19	12	53,876	90.5%	20.0	.431	3,653	\$16.19	72
19	Carolina Panthers^^	69.79	22	9	62,209	83.1%	26.3	.469	5,169	\$20.12	53
20	Pittsburgh Steelers	69.55	17	23	55,536	93.4%	11.8	.581	2,556	\$14.48	38
21	Detroit Lions	67.73	15	25	68,334	85.0%	18.0	.513	1,468	\$13.12	72
22	San Francisco 49ers	66.11	8	31	64,241	93.4%	7.7	.656	1,015	\$13.36	57
23	New England Patriots	63.84	25	10	53,327	88.2%	35.6	.450	1,064	\$14.00	41
24	Seattle Seahawks#	59.56	24	15	56,141	84.7%	32.6	.419	1,979	\$13.49	72
25	New Orleans Saints	59.12	26	13	57,571	84.1%	41.2	.456	4,982	\$18.06	72
26	Minnesota Vikings	57.32	16	30	59,036	92.9%	18.6	.625	2,233	\$14.39	72
27	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	55.62	29	4	55,243	76.9%	42.9	.444	2,911	\$24.79	72
28	Oakland Raiders^^	50.34	27	20	50,738	80.7%	17.1	.490	918	\$13.83	57
29	Atlanta Falcons	48.65	28	17	54,419	77.5%	30.9	.444	1,847	\$13.13	72
30	Arizona Cardinals	42.56	31	3	48,492	66.2%	34.2	.350	2,431	\$14.86	66
31	Tennessee Titans##	30.51	30	26	50,006	84.1%	57.2	.656	5,718	\$22.01	52

Key

* Cleveland returned to the league in 1999. Its figures are for the seven seasons from 1991-95 and 1999-2000.

** Green Bay's figures have been adjusted to reflect that the Packers played five home games in Green Bay and three in Milwaukee each season from 1991 through 1994.

^ Baltimore began play in 1996. Its figures are for five seasons.

^^ Carolina, Jacksonville, Oakland and St. Louis began play in 1995. Their figures are for six seasons.

Seattle has been assigned a temperature of 72 degrees because the Seahawks played indoors until the 2000 season.

Tennessee began play in 1997. Its figures are for four seasons.

Glossary of categories

Score: Measure of each team's fan support on a 100-point scale. Support factors (average attendance, percent of capacity and attendance fluctuation) account for 60 percent of each team's overall score. Difficulty factors (winning percentage, seats per 100,000, ticket cost per \$10,000 and December temperature) account for the other 40 percent. The top team is awarded a score of 100.00; all other scores are based off that benchmark. Teams less than 7 years old have their scores cut according to a sliding scale, reducing the statistical impact of the honeymoon period enjoyed by most new sports franchises.

Support rank: Rank among 31 teams in support factors. Teams with high average attendance, high percent of capacity and low attendance fluctuation receive the best ranks in this section.

Difficulty rank: Rank among 31 teams in difficulty factors. Teams with low winning percentage, high number of seats per 100,000, high ticket cost per \$10,000 and low December temperature receive the best ranks in this section.

Average attendance: Average crowd at regular-season home games, 1991-2000.

Percent of capacity: Percentage of available seats that were occupied at home games, 1991-2000.

Attendance fluctuation: Difference (in percentage points) between best and worst annual percents of capacity, 1991-2000.

Win percentage: Team's regular-season record for the seasons 1991 through 2000.

Seats per 100,000: Number of stadium seats in 2000 for every 100,000 metro area residents. (Example: A team has 50,000 seats for a metro with 1 million residents. That equals 5,000 seats per 100,000 residents.)

Ticket cost per \$10,000: Ratio of the 2000 average ticket price to every \$10,000 of local per capita income. (Example: A team's average ticket price is \$25, while the area's per capita income is \$20,000. That equals a ticket cost of \$12.50 per \$10,000 of income.)

December temperature: Average high temperature for the month. Domed-stadium teams are assigned a temperature of 72 degrees.

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FANTASY REPORT

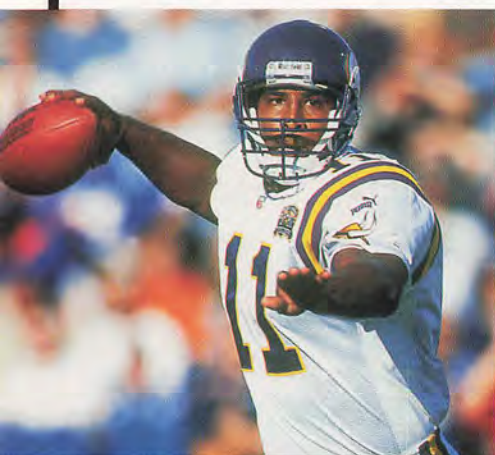
CHANGE IS GOOD IN THE NFL—
IF YOU STAY ON TOP OF THINGS.

By Les Kovach

If you got up to go to the fridge during the 2000 NFL season, you probably didn't recognize the league when you sat back down on the couch. With all the change the NFL experienced, a fantasy team owner may be tempted to throw out everything he's learned and simply draft out of a hat. But, with parity the only thing dominating the NFL, it's more important than ever to pay attention.

Know the system

Often, a team's offensive system may be a better indicator of a player's fantasy potential than his past perfor-



DAUNTE CULPEPPER

mance. Just ask Denver running backs Mike Anderson and Olandis Gary or Minnesota coach Dennis Green and quarterback Daunte Culpepper. Under Green in 1998 and 1999, Minnesota quarterbacks—including Brad Johnson, Randall Cunningham and Jeff George—averaged 36 touchdowns and more than 4,300 yards passing. Culpepper's 33 scoring strikes and nearly 4,000 yards passing in 16 games were par for the system.

Is Robert Smith's replacement on the Vikings, rookie running back Michael Bennett, a lock for 1,800 total yards this year? No, but Smith's past rushing and receiving numbers are a blueprint of how Green would like to use Bennett.

Of course, coaching changes mean new systems. With the arrival of new coach Dick Vermeil, former Rams receivers coach Al Saunders and quarterback Trent Green in Kansas City, expect the Chiefs to air it out, and expect the stats to reflect a high-powered passing attack. Conversely, even with cannon-armed George under center in Washington, new Redskins coach Marty Schottenheimer will stick to old habits (see: Christian Okoye) and grind it out on offense with Pro Bowler Stephen Davis.

Keep an eye on the camps

Inevitably, situations don't resolve themselves until late in training camp or the preseason.

With a load of 1,000-yard rushers in Denver, coach Mike Shanahan is going to trade Anderson or Gary. Whoever goes likely is an immediate starter and top 25 fantasy back; whoever stays fills in if Terrell Davis doesn't recover from leg injuries. Also, watch who grabs the vital tight end job after Byron Chamberlain's departure to Minnesota.

In San Francisco, where Charlie Garner left via free agency, the 49ers need a running back. Little known Paul Smith and Jonas Lewis were keeping the spot warm while Garrison Hearst continued to dream of a comeback.



MIKE ANDERSON



JEFF BLAKE

Someone—maybe rookie Kevan Barlow or a free agent or even fullback Fred Beasley—in the backfield will score plenty of TDs in San Francisco's offense. And keep an eye on Jerry Rice's situation; he'll be released and may land in Detroit or Seattle, among other possibilities.

Several other key starting jobs are up for grabs. The Chiefs signed free agent Priest Holmes to wrest the starting job from a committee of backs, including Frank Moreau and Mike Cloud. Quarterbacks Jeff Blake and Aaron Brooks will wage a heated battle in New Orleans, while Shane Matthews, Cade McNown and Jim Miller fight a less-heated battle in Chicago. Running back J.R. Redmond will attempt to emerge ahead of Kevin Faulk and Marc Edwards as the starter in New England. And there should be a good competition for the tailback spots in Arizona and Cleveland.

And, of course, if you pay close enough attention, you may uncover one of the many inevitable surprises to take the league by storm each fantasy season.

LEFT TO RIGHT: SPORTSCHROME U.S.A., PAUL JASIENSKI, JOHN WILLIAMSON

Quarterbacks

Player	Team	
1 Peyton Manning	IND	Definition of consistency is already a virtual lock for 25-30 TDs and 4,000 yards passing.
2 Kurt Warner	STL	Despite injury, offense ranked No. 1 in points and yards. Look for similar results.
3 Daunte Culpepper	MIN	Loss of RB Robert Smith removes safety valve. Experience helps, but don't expect better stats.
4 Jeff Garcia	SF	Third in the league with 31 TDs and second with 4,278 yards. Who are Montana and Young, anyway?
5 Rich Gannon	OAK	Found a home in West Coast offense, averaging 26 touchdowns and 3,600 yards in two years.
6 Brian Griese	DEN	Led NFL with 102.9 passer rating and has all the weapons, but durability is a major concern.
7 Trent Green	KC	He was supposed to be Kurt Warner in St. Louis; now he gets his chance in Vermeil's offense.
8 Brett Favre	GB	Touchdowns and yards have fallen in each of last three seasons, but upside is still huge.
9 Brad Johnson	TB	Arrival immediately improves offense, but team won't change overnight. 25 TDs will be a stretch.
10 Rob Johnson	BUF	Should regain confidence—and teammates' support—without Flutie looking over his shoulder.
11 Jeff George	WAS	Under new coach Marty Schottenheimer, Washington will be a run-first team.
12 Donovan McNabb	PHI	Carried the Eagles' offense and made case for league MVP. Supporting cast much improved.
13 Elvis Grbac	BAL	Team wins with defense. Despite success throwing in K.C., numbers will be conservative.
14 Mark Brunell	JAX	Has new contract, but does he have coaches' support? Still has never thrown more than 20 TDs.
15 Drew Bledsoe	NE	Numbers steadily declined over last five years, but still averaged 3,700 yards and 22 scores.

16 Vinny Testaverde	NYJ
17 Kerry Collins	NYG
18 Doug Flutie	SD
19 Steve McNair	TEN
20 Jeff Blake	NO
21 Charlie Batch	DET
22 Matt Hasselbeck	SEA
23 Kordell Stewart	PIT
24 Jake Plummer	AZ
25 Chris Chandler	ATL
26 Jon Kitna	CIN
27 Steve Beuerlein	FA
28 Jay Fiedler	MIA
29 Tony Banks	DAL
30 Shane Matthews	CHI
31 Jeff Lewis	CAR
32 Tim Couch	CLE
33 Aaron Brooks	NO
34 Gus Frerotte	DEN
35 Bubba Brister	KC
36 Michael Vick*	ATL
37 Joe Germaine	STL
38 Todd Bouman	MIN
39 Cade McNown	CHI
40 Jim Harbaugh	DET
41 Ray Lucas	MIA
42 Alex Van Pelt	BUF
43 Akili Smith	CIN
44 Chris Weinke*	CAR
45 Neil O'Donnell	TEN

* = Rookie / FA = Free Agent



#6 BRIAN GRIESE



#8 BRETT FAVRE



#1 PEYTON MANNING



#21 CHARLIE BATCH



#24 JAKE PLUMMER

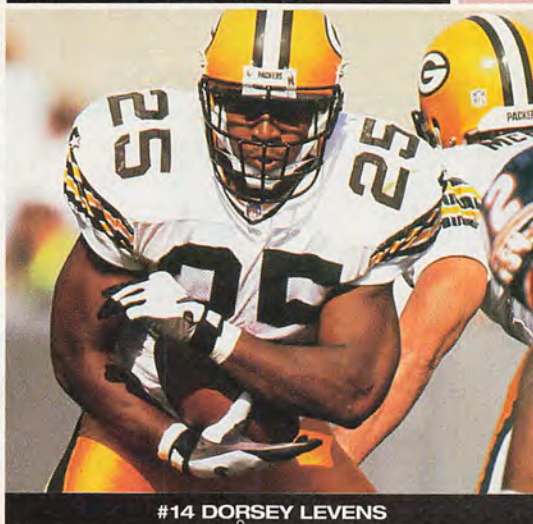


Running Backs

Player	Team	
1 Marshall Faulk	STL	The No. 1 fantasy pick and Rams MVP: 48 TDs and nearly 7,000 total yards in three seasons.
2 Edgerrin James	IND	Averaged 2,200 total yards and 17.5 TDs in first two seasons in league's most balanced attack.
3 Eddie George	TEN	Improved on career rushing averages with 1,509 yards, 14 TDs and league-leading 403 carries.
4 Stephen Davis	WAS	Offense's first option should get more carries. Safe bet for 1,200 yards and 10 touchdowns.
5 Fred Taylor	JAX	Showed what he is capable of when healthy. Breakaway ability may be unmatched.
6 Curtis Martin	NYJ	Most dependable fantasy back in the league will top 1,150 yards for a seventh straight year.
7 Jamal Lewis	BAL	Rare combination of size and speed; exploded in second half of season. Will score more.
8 James Stewart	DET	Expect new coach Marty Mornhinweg to rely on steady workhorse for 20-25 carries a game.
9 Lamar Smith	MIA	Don't expect repeat of career year, but 1,000 yards and 10 TDs isn't a reach in Miami offense.
10 Terrell Davis	DEN	Denver's tailback is a top five fantasy back—but will Davis be healthy enough to be the starter?
11 Corey Dillon	CIN	Carries, yards and TDs all improved in three seasons as starter: 1,300-yard, eight-TD potential.
12 Ricky Williams	NO	Will be pushed hard by rookie Deuce McCallister; how he will react is anyone's guess.
13 Emmitt Smith	DAL	Offense will rely on ageless star more than ever, and defenses know it—but can they stop him?
14 Dorsey Levens	GB	Good news: He and Ahman Green are a potent combination. Bad news: They're a combination.
15 Ricky Watters	SEA	As good as ever with six straight 1,100-yard seasons, but how long can he hold off Shaun Alexander?
16 Jerome Bettis	PIT	
17 Duce Staley	PHI	
18 Priest Holmes	KC	
19 Tyrone Wheatley	OAK	
20 LaDainian Tomlinson*	SD	
21 Michael Bennett*	MIN	
22 Tiki Barber	NYG	
23 Jamal Anderson	ATL	
24 Charlie Garner	OAK	
25 Warrick Dunn	TB	
26 James Allen	CHI	
27 Ahman Green	GB	
28 Shaun Alexander	SEA	
29 J.R. Redmond	NE	
30 Michael Pittman	AZ	
31 Tim Biakabutuka	CAR	
32 Paul Smith	SF	
33 Deuce McCallister*	NO	
34 Thomas Jones	AZ	
35 Olandis Gary	DEN	
36 Fred Beasley	SF	
37 Sammy Morris	BUF	
38 Mike Anderson	DEN	
39 Mike Alstott	TB	
40 Ron Dayne	NYG	
41 Tony Richardson	KC	
42 Kevin Faulk	NE	
43 Shawn Bryson	BUF	
44 Terrell Fletcher	SD	
45 Anthony Thomas*	CHI	
46 Doug Chapman	MIN	
47 Robert Holcombe	STL	
48 Skip Hicks	WAS	
49 Chris Fuamatu-ma'afala	PIT	
50 Antowain Smith	BUF	
51 Jamel White	CLE	
52 Richie Anderson	NYJ	
53 Frank Moreau	KC	
54 LaMont Jordan*	NYJ	
55 Richard Huntley	PIT	
56 Moe Williams	MIN	
57 James Jackson*	CLE	
58 Justin Watson	STL	
59 R.J. Bowers*	CAR	



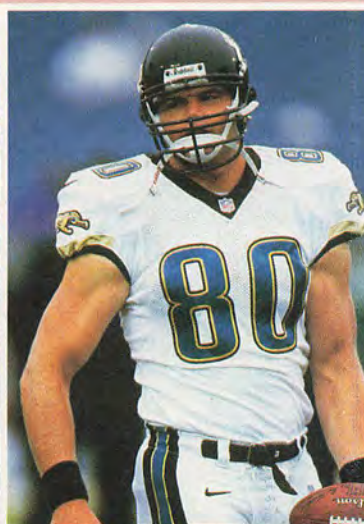
#3 EDDIE GEORGE



#14 DORSEY LEVENS

Tight Ends

Player	Team
1 Tony Gonzalez	KC
2 Shannon Sharpe	BAL
3 Jay Riemersma	BUF
4 Freddie Jones	SD
5 Wesley Walls	CAR
6 Rickey Dudley	CLE
7 Frank Wycheck	TEN
8 Stephen Alexander	WAS
9 David Sloan	DET
10 Ken Dilger	IND
11 Roland Williams	OAK
12 Byron Chamberlain	MIN
13 Dwayne Carswell	DEN
14 Kyle Brady	JAX
15 Cameron Cleeland	NO
16 Chad Lewis	PHI
17 Christian Fauria	SEA
18 Ernie Conwell	STL
19 Bubba Franks	GB
20 Anthony Becht	NYJ



#14 KYLE BRADY

Wide Receivers

Player	Team	
1 Randy Moss	MIN	He may be the only one who can stop him. Averaging nearly 15 TDs, 1,400 yards per season.
2 Marvin Harrison	IND	Can be shut down, but No. 1 over two years in catches (217), yards (3,076); No. 2 in TDs (26).
3 Terrell Owens	SF	Showed same deep threat as in '98 season and established himself as team's primary target.
4 Cris Carter	MIN	All he's done is average 12 TDs in six years and record eight straight 1,000-yard seasons.
5 Isaac Bruce	STL	Can score from anywhere on field. Averaged more than 1,300 yards and 10 TDs in two seasons.
6 Jimmy Smith	JAX	No. 1 over last three years in receptions with 282 and No. 2 in receiving yards with 3,969.
7 Tim Brown	OAK	Will record ninth straight 75-catch, 1,000-yard season. Averaging eight TDs over last eight years.
8 Eric Moulds	BUF	Set franchise record with 94 catches. Should benefit from QB Johnson's arm and stability.
9 Rod Smith	DEN	Averaged almost 90 catches and 1,300 yards but just six touchdowns in last three seasons.
10 Derrick Alexander	KC	Proved he can carry passing attack, and Dick Vermeil and QB Trent Green will go deep often.
11 Ed McCaffrey	DEN	Always dependable, had career year with 101 catches for 1,300 yards and nine TDs.
12 Muhsin Muhammad	CAR	No. 3 in receptions last two years with 198, but can Jeff Lewis or Chris Weinke get him the ball?
13 Keyshawn Johnson	TB	Should see better totals with Brad Johnson's arrival; 80 catches, 1,000 yards, eight TDs likely.
14 Antonio Freeman	GB	Must regain old form, but always a threat for 1,000-plus yards and double-digit scores.
15 Tony Gonzalez	KC	Tight end will see less balls in new offense but may be the best red-zone receiver after Cris Carter.
16 Michael Westbrook	WAS	
17 Joe Horn	NO	
18 Torry Holt	STL	
19 Wayne Chrebet	NYJ	
20 Marcus Robinson	CHI	
21 Terry Glenn	NE	
22 Amani Toomer	NYG	
23 Darrell Jackson	SEA	
24 Germane Crowell	DET	
25 Darnay Scott	CIN	
26 Keenan McCardell	JAX	
27 Jerry Rice	FA	
28 David Boston	AZ	
29 Raghbir Ismail	DAL	
30 Peter Warrick	CIN	
31 Albert Connell	NO	
32 Sylvester Morris	KC	
33 O.J. McDuffie	MIA	
34 J.J. Stokes	SF	
35 Koren Robinson*	SEA	
36 Derrick Mason	TEN	
37 Bill Schroeder	GB	
38 Terance Mathis	ATL	
39 Ike Hilliard	NYG	
40 Joey Galloway	DAL	
41 Az-Zahir Hakim	STL	
42 Qadry Ismail	BAL	
43 Peerless Price	BUF	
44 Jerome Pathon	IND	
45 Bert Emanuel	NE	
46 Oronde Gadsden	MIA	
47 Matthew Hatchette	NYJ	
48 Johnnie Morton	DET	
49 James Thrash	PHI	
50 Frank Sanders	AZ	
51 Travis Taylor	BAL	
52 Kevin Lockett	WAS	
53 Santana Moss*	NYJ	
54 James McKnight	MIA	
55 Donald Hayes	CAR	
56 Rod Gardner*	WAS	
57 Curtis Conway	SD	
58 David Terrell*	CHI	
59 Kevin Johnson	CLE	
60 Andre Rison	FA	



#12 MUHSIN MUHAMMAD



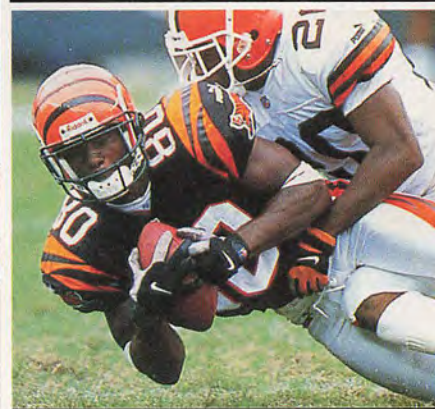
#2 MARVIN HARRISON



#6 JIMMY SMITH



#4 CRIS CARTER

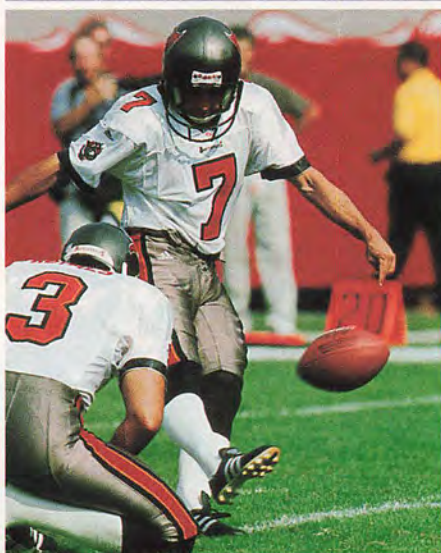


#30 PETER WARRICK

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JOE ROBBINS, TOMASSO DE ROSA, ACTIVE IMAGES, JOE ROBBINS, BRUCE L. SCHWARTZMAN

Kickers

Player	Team
1 Mike Vanderjagt	IND
2 Jeff Wilkins	STL
3 Jason Elam	DEN
4 Olindo Mare	MIA
5 Matt Stover	BAL
6 Mike Hollis	JAX
7 Martin Gramatica	TB
8 Ryan Longwell	GB
9 Sebastian Janikowski	OAK
10 Jason Hanson	DET
11 Gary Anderson	MIN
12 Joe Nedney	TEN
13 Todd Peterson	KC
14 Steve Christie	BUF
15 Brett Conway	WAS
16 David Akers	PHI
17 Rian Lindell	SEA
18 Jeff Hall	NO
19 Adam Vinatieri	NE
20 Wade Richey	SD



#7 MARTIN GRAMATICA



#4 OLINDO MARE

Defenses

Team
1 Baltimore
2 Tennessee
3 Tampa Bay
4 Miami
5 New York Giants
6 Buffalo
7 Oakland
8 St. Louis
9 New Orleans
10 Denver
11 Pittsburgh
12 Philadelphia
13 Jacksonville
14 Kansas City
15 New York Jets
16 Seattle
17 Washington
18 Detroit
19 New England
20 Dallas
21 Minnesota
22 Green Bay
23 Indianapolis
24 Chicago
25 San Diego
26 Carolina
27 Arizona
28 San Francisco
29 Atlanta
30 Cleveland
31 Cincinnati



#4 MIAMI DEFENSE



#5 J.R. REDMOND

Top Rookies

Player	Team
1 LaDainian Tomlinson (RB)	SD
Immediately steps in as starter and vastly improves running game.	
2 Michael Bennett (RB)	MIN
Has good chance to replace Robert Smith in Vikings' explosive offense.	
3 Koren Robinson (WR)	SEA
Good fit in Holmgren's offense; will contribute a lot on special teams.	
4 Deuce McAllister (RB)	NO
May be most talented RB drafted. Will catch balls out of the backfield.	
5 Santana Moss (WR)	NYJ
Explosive game-breaker will return a few kicks for scores.	

Breakout Players

Player	Team
1 Trent Green (QB)	KC
Before injury, many thought he was better than Kurt Warner.	
2 Jamal Lewis (RB)	BAL
After this season he'll be a perennial top 10 fantasy pick.	
3 Darrell Jackson (WR)	SEA
Led rookie WRs in catches, yards and TDs. Think Favre-to-Freeman.	
4 Shaun Alexander (RB)	SEA
Top 15 back if not playing behind future Hall-of-Famer Ricky Watters.	
5 J.R. Redmond (RB)	NE
Should grab full-time role in second season. Potential workhorse.	



#2 JAMAL LEWIS

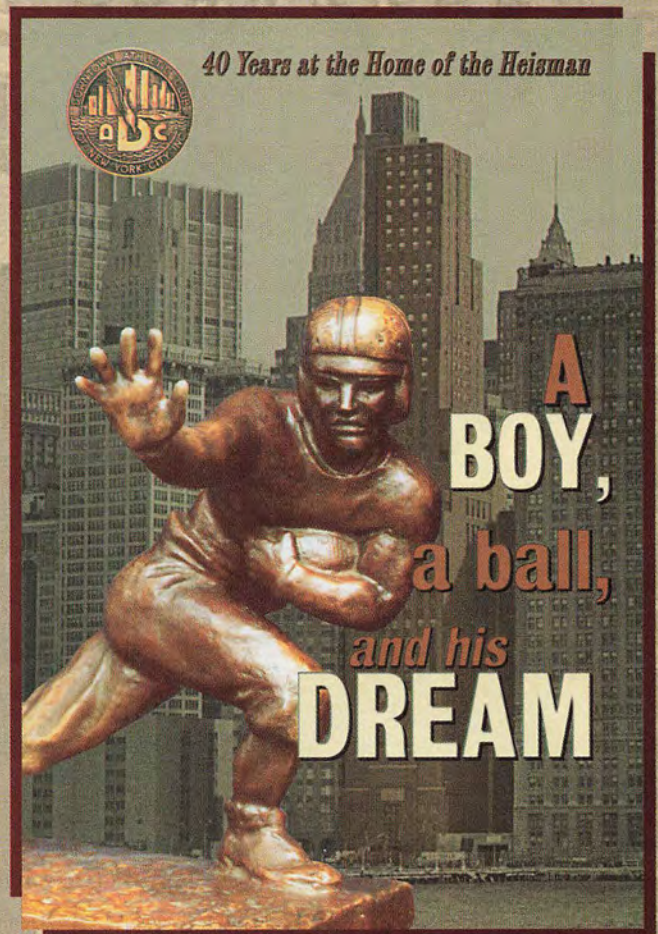
A Boy, a Ball, and his Dream:

40 Years at the Home of the Heisman

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—By Rudy Riska, John S. Clark, and Peter J. Clark

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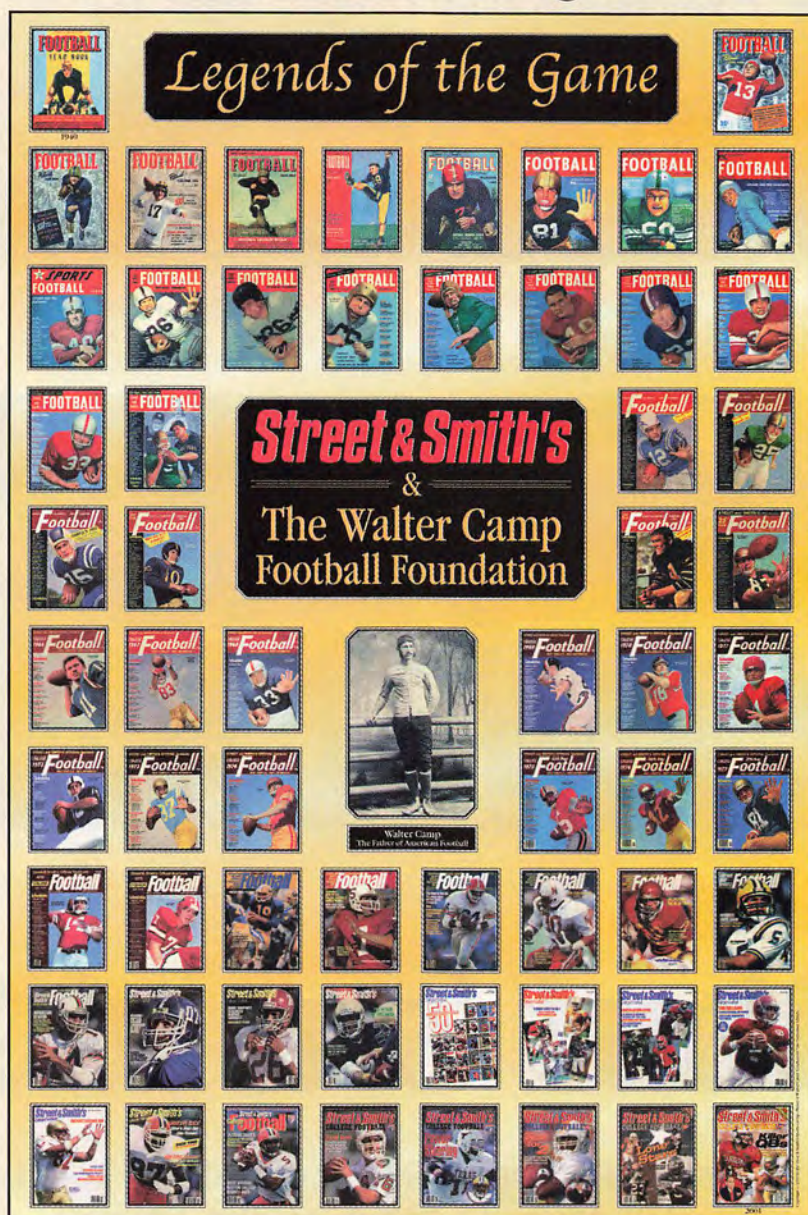
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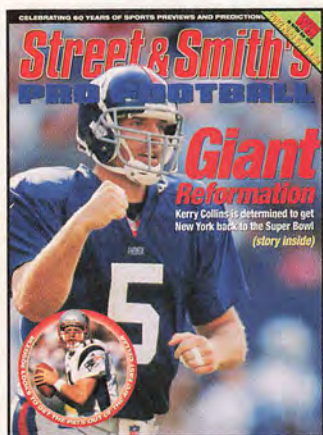
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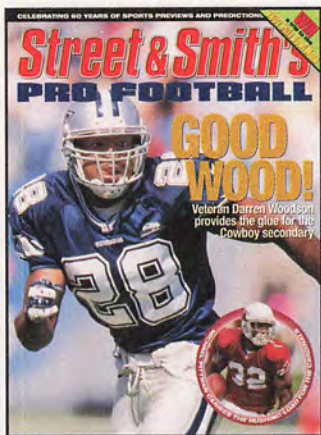
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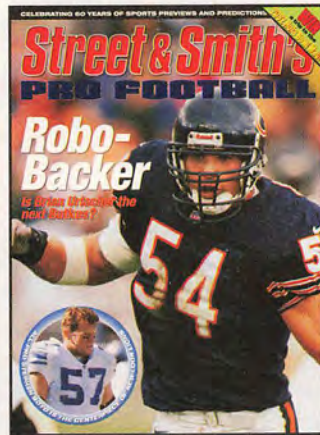
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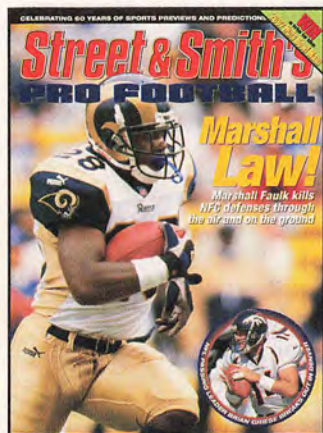
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Dolphins/Buccaneers



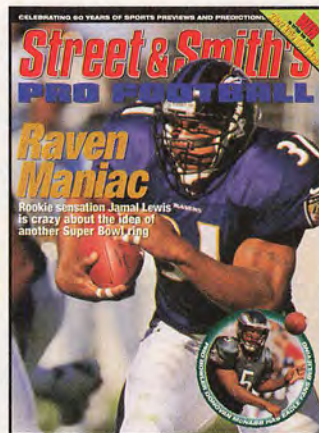
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2001 PREDICTIONS





JOE ROBBINS

AFC EAST

1. Indianapolis Colts
2. Miami Dolphins*
3. Buffalo Bills
4. New York Jets
5. New England Patriots

AFC CENTRAL

1. Baltimore Ravens
2. Tennessee Titans*
3. Pittsburgh Steelers
4. Jacksonville Jaguars
5. Cleveland Browns
6. Cincinnati Bengals

AFC WEST

1. Denver Broncos
2. Oakland Raiders*
3. Seattle Seahawks
4. San Diego Chargers
5. Kansas City Chiefs

NFC EAST

1. Philadelphia Eagles
2. New York Giants*
3. Washington Redskins*
4. Dallas Cowboys
5. Arizona Cardinals

NFC CENTRAL

1. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
2. Green Bay Packers
3. Detroit Lions
4. Minnesota Vikings
5. Chicago Bears

NFC WEST

1. St. Louis Rams
2. New Orleans Saints*
3. San Francisco 49ers
4. Carolina Panthers
5. Atlanta Falcons

*Indicates wild card

SUPER BOWL XXXVI

Tampa Bay
over
Denver

Statistics compiled by Stephanie Brooks
Rosters provided by STATS Inc.



AFC EAST

Division will come down to a battle of Indy offense vs. Miami defense.

By Larry Felser, *Buffalo News*

Indianapolis has a spongy defense and Miami has an erratic offense, but perfection is not in the game plan for AFC East 2001, so those two are likely to battle it out until the five-week span between November 11 and December 10 when they meet twice.

The Jets and Buffalo could make it interesting late in the season, but each has a new coach installing new systems—Herman Edwards with New York and Gregg Williams with Buffalo—so next year is the more realistic goal.

Indianapolis Colts

A year from now the Colts' first battle is likely to be with their salary cap, so a sense of urgency to win is upon them. A new weapon has been added to the power troika of quarterback Peyton Manning, running back Edgerrin James and wide receiver Marvin Harrison. That's Reggie Wayne, the electric rookie receiver from the Miami Hurricanes. Shootouts may be the key to Indy's success in the postseason.

Just as they were a year ago, the Colts pin most of their defensive hopes on Rob Morris, whose rookie year at middle linebacker was ruined by a series of false starts and injuries. It's a heavy load for an inexperienced player, but as Morris goes so goes the Colt defense, and maybe the entire team. If enemy runners can't be controlled more efficiently than they were a year ago, the Colts will have another unhappy ending.

Miami Dolphins

With the "un-quarterback," Jay Fiedler, the Dolphins were the surprise division champions, winning largely with their tough defense and the best Miami running game in many years. There is no guarantee running back Lamar Smith will have another career year, so Fiedler has been provided with better receivers—free agents James McKnight and Dedric Ward and rookie Chris Chambers.

Since the college draft didn't bring the help expected, the Dolphins will depend on the four free agents they added. The defense took a big free-agent hit with the loss of Trace Armstrong, the NFL's top sacker.

Coach Dave Wannstedt's remedy may be tighter, more-experienced coverage.

Buffalo Bills

Just about everyone in the Bills' organization is still introducing themselves to one another. New GM, new coach, new coaching staff and a flood of new players. It could be midseason and they'll still be bumping into the furniture like a company of unrehearsed actors. What may save them is the nucleus of a first-rate defense despite its loss of three starters.

If this team is to cause any trouble in the division, the offense will have to protect Rob Johnson. For that matter, Johnson must help himself by getting rid of his passes much more quickly in the newly installed West Coast offense. New front-office boss Tom Donahoe did Johnson a favor by re-signing superb wide receiver Eric Moulds.

New York Jets

The Bills Parcels era has exited and the Woody Johnson era is inching itself on stage. Johnson, the new owner, rolled the dice with Herman Edwards as his new coach, even though Edwards hasn't even been a coordinator. It would help if new GM Terry Bradway provided a good start with a sound draft.

What direction is finally taken depends upon whether Vinny Testaverde has enough left as a quarterback to push the Jets into early contention, or whether the season will be chalked up to a learning experience for young quarterback Chad Pennington. The tough September schedule should be revealing.

New England Patriots

It's not quite "Drew Bledsoe against the World," but it's close. The veteran quarterback is operating without a viable running game, with a makeshift offensive line and a team attitude in need of a radical adjustment. The Pats trailed at halftime six times last year and lost all six times. That doesn't say much for their heart. Few teams have as many holes as the Pats. The best they can hope for this season is the spoiler's role.



TOP PLAYERS

OFFENSE:
Peyton Manning, QB
Indianapolis Colts

DEFENSE:
Sam Cowart, LB
Buffalo Bills

NEWCOMER:
Santana Moss, WR
New York Jets





Less-filling Colts hope explosive offense is enough to overcome shaky defense.

The Colts are the "St. Louis Rams Lite." During the last two regular seasons they won more games than any team except the Tennessee Titans and as many as the Rams. Their offensive firepower isn't in the same category as that of the Rams, but it's close. Their defense wasn't as weak as the Rams' unit of 2000, but it was weak enough to keep them from winning a single playoff game in the Jim Mora era.



Last year Edgerrin James became the fifth player in NFL history to win consecutive rushing titles in his first two seasons.

In this season of flawed teams at the highest levels, the Colts may have a combination of just enough assets and few enough surmountable liabilities to make a long-shot pass at the Super Bowl. With a little defensive luck, however, they could turn out to be the class of the AFC East.

Peyton's place maturing?

The most important factor Indy may have going for it is increased maturity. Last season's 10-6 record might have been increased by two or three victories with more focus and steadier nerves. There wasn't much of a pattern to the losses. There were a couple of miserable starts, some shaky finishes and one uncharacteristic

bad day by **Peyton Manning** when he was intercepted three times by the lowly Patriots.

The disturbing pattern was the inability of the defense to stop strong running games. As fine a runner as **Edgerrin James** has been for the Colts, the opposition outgained Indy and scored as many rushing TDs as James, 13. The entire run defense collapsed in the playoff game against Miami when it made Lamar Smith look like the ghost of Jim Brown. Indy was outscored 17-3 in the second half and then was trampled by Smith in overtime.

Mora brought New Orleans to its first experience with frequent victories, but was unable to win a playoff game. Now it's Indianapolis. Unless he finds a way to break the pattern, he'll be getting some skeptical looks from owner Jim Irsay and GM Bill Polian in January.

The major move Polian made a year ago to stop the bleeding against enemy runners was the drafting of middle linebacker **Rob Morris** in the first round. It didn't turn out well. By midseason Morris was on injured reserve, but he never broke into the starting lineup anyway and, in his seven appearances, made just 12 tackles. Since he came into the NFL at an advanced age, Morris, now 26, must produce immediately.

Uneventful offseason

The alarming thing is that nothing happened for Indy in the offseason to suggest the defense is going to be any better. The best of the draft brings gifted wide receiver **Reggie Wayne** and nothing that looks like immediate defensive help. Strapped by salary-cap restrictions, there was no venture into free agency.

The feel-good aspect of being a Colt fan is thinking about those 4,413 yards passing and



Peyton Manning is coming off a monster year, having led the NFL with 4,413 passing yards and 33 TDs.

33 touchdowns accumulated by quarterback Manning; James' NFL-leading 1,709 rushing yards and **Marvin Harrison's** 102 catches and 14 touchdowns, both AFC-leading marks. Wayne had 43 catches and 10 TDs for the Miami Hurricanes, which implies even stronger offense. No division opponent came within 100 points of Indy's scoring output.

But even the presence of the Big Three—Manning, James and Harrison—is a reminder that if anything happened to any one of them the Colts would drop, and more than just a notch. For instance, Manning hasn't missed a start since he was a rookie. He hasn't even been out of a game for more than a handful of plays. If his streak ended, the offense would be in the hands of **Billy Joe Hobert**, a precipitous drop. There is no one behind James, and Wayne would have to be a freshman wonder to compensate for the loss of Harrison.

Keeping the points coming

The Colts need to score a lot of points in order to stay among the elite of the conference.

NUMBERS	TEAM STATS			NFL RANK		
	TOTAL OFFENSE	383.8		3		
	RUSHING	116.2		16		
	PASSING	267.6		2		
	SCORING	429		4		
	PUNT RETURNS	9.3		18		
	KICK RETURNS	19.9		30		
	TEAM STATS			NFL RANK		
	TOTAL DEFENSE	334.8		21		
	AGAINST RUSH	120.9		25		
	AGAINST PASS	213.9		18		
	PTS. ALLOWED	326		15		
	INTERCEPTIONS	14		22		
	SACKS	42		11T		
	RED ZONE TD %	60.4		3		
	TURNOVER DIFF.	-7		22		



KEN DILGER
47 RECEPTIONS 538 YARDS



End Chad Bratzke (left) and middle linebacker Rob Morris (middle) were defensive disappointments in 2000, but tight end Marcus Pollard's stellar play earned a nice new contract.

There were only five games last season in which Indy failed to score at least 20 points. The alarming part was that all five of those games were against division opponents. It would not be surprising to see the Colts become more conservative offensively, in order to keep that question-mark defense off the field. Running left is the way, since tackle **Tarik Glenn** and guard **Steve McKinney** are on that side. Right tackle **Adam Meadows** is solid, but the club would like to do better than **Jeff Saturday** at center and **Larry Moore** at right guard. The two tight ends, **Ken Dilger** and **Marcus Pollard**, are a vital part of the running game, often lining up as a tandem. Pollard made 12 starts. Each

had career-high receptions in 2000, 47 by Dilger and 30 by Pollard, who was rewarded with a rich contract.

Polian, normally a gifted drafter, did a lot of wheeling and dealing in the offseason, which amounted to little immediate impact this time. After Ware, the next two picks were not-ready-for-prime-time safeties, **Idrees Bashir** and **Cory Bird**, to compensate for the flight of veterans. Some of the younger Colt defenders will have to get better in a hurry.

Linebacking is especially vulnerable because of youth. Morris will be the middle man from the start. **Marcus Washington**, who didn't get a start as a rookie and made just 14 tackles, will replace departed

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 27-14	at Kansas City
09/10	L 31-38	Oakland
09/25	W 43-14	Jacksonville
10/01	W 18-16	at Buffalo
10/08	L 16-24	at New England
10/15	W 37-24	at Seattle
10/22	W 30-23	New England
10/29	W 30-18	Detroit
11/05	L 24-27	at Chicago
11/12	W 23-15	New York Jets
11/19	L 24-26	at Green Bay
11/26	L 14-17	Miami
12/03	L 17-27	at New York Jets
12/11	W 44-20	Buffalo
12/17	W 20-13	at Miami
12/24	W 31-10	Minnesota

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
James	387	1709	4.4	30	13
Manning	37	116	3.1	14	1
Gordon	4	13	3.2	6	0
Smith	1	11	11.0	11	0
Wilkins	3	8	2.7	6	0
Pathon	1	3	3.0	3	0
Finn	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	435	1859	4.3	30	14
Opponents	446	1935	4.3	55	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Harrison	102	1413	13.9	78t	14
James	63	594	9.4	60	5
Pathon	50	646	12.9	38	3
Dilger	47	538	11.4	32	3
Wilkins	43	569	13.2	43t	3
Pollard	30	439	14.6	50t	3
Green	18	201	11.2	34t	1
Finn	4	13	3.2	6	1
Team	357	4413	12.4	78t	33
Opponents	317	3674	11.6	50	22

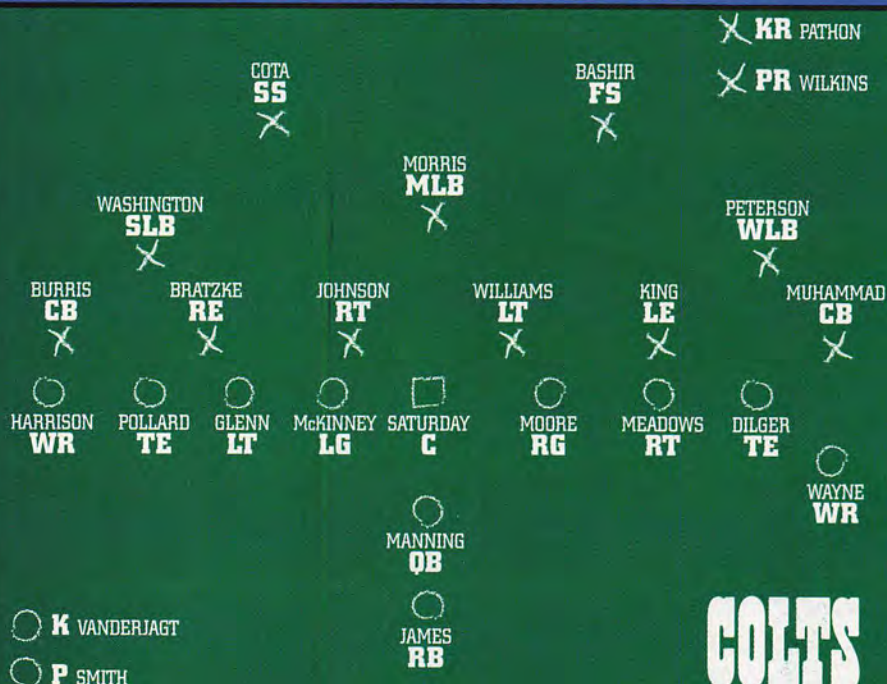
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Manning	571	357	4413	33	15
Team	571	357	4413	33	15
Opponents	530	317	3674	22	14

SACKS

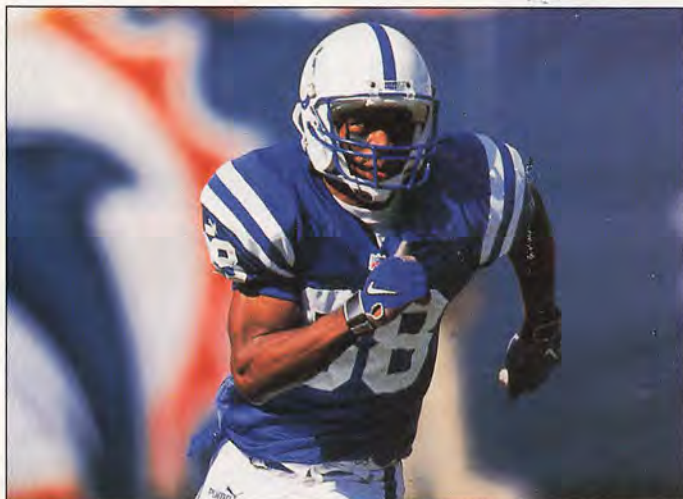
Bratzke 7.5, Belser 5.0, Johnson 5.0, M. Thomas 5.0, Bennett 3.0, Burris 3.0, Williams 3.0, Chester 2.5, Holsey 2.0, Scioli 2.0, Washington 2.0, Hollier 1.0, Whittington 1.0

Team 42.0, Opponents 20.0

PROJECTED STARTERS



COLTS



Marvin Harrison's 14 TD receptions last season tied Raymond Berry's franchise record set in 1959.

Cornelius Bennett as the strongside backer. The young leader is **Mike Peterson**, who led the team with 160 tackles. He plays big in big games. He had 36 tackles in the three games against Miami.

Since the Colt secondary is disastrously slow, the pass rush must sizzle consistently. It produced a satisfactory 42 sacks last year. The right side of the line gets most of the burden, with **Chad Bratzke** at end and **Ellis Johnson** at tackle. Bratzke had just 7.5 sacks last year after contributing a dozen in each of his previous two seasons. **Brad Sciolli** won the starting left end job late in the season. Mark Thomas replaced him in passing situations and chipped in with five sacks, but he was wiped aside by the return of **Shawn King** from a year's drug suspension by the league. Left tackle **Josh Williams** will be challenged.

When the Colts chose not to re-sign free safety Jason Belser, it removed the defensive secondary's best blitzer. Bashir and Bird, along with **Tony Blevins**, get a crack at his job. **Jeff Burris**, the left corner, was slated for a switch to Belser's position if a speedy cornerback could be found. He wasn't. Burris led the team with four interceptions. Right corner will be a battle between **Mustafah Muhammad** and **David Macklin**.

Mike Vanderjagt is a deadly field goal kicker. He was successful on 25 of 27 attempts last season, although his first miss in seven post-season attempts, a 49-yarder, came in the overtime loss to Miami. **Hunter Smith** is a solid punter.

 2001 SCHEDULE				
WEEK				
1	9/9	at N.Y. Jets	1:00	
2	9/16	DENVER	1:00	
3	9/23	BUFFALO	1:00	
4	9/30	at New England	1:00	
5	10/7	OPEN DATE		
6	10/14	OAKLAND	8:30	
7	10/21	NEW ENGLAND	1:00	
8	10/28	at Kansas City	1:00	
9	11/4	at Buffalo	4:15	
10	11/11	MIAMI	1:00	
11	11/18	at New Orleans	1:00	
12	11/25	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00	
13	12/2	at Baltimore	1:00	
14	12/10	at Miami	9:00	
15	12/16	ATLANTA	1:00	
16	12/23	N.Y. JETS	8:30	
17	12/30	at St. Louis	1:00	

*All times Eastern

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Jim Mora, head coach

John Hufnagel, quarterbacks; **George Catavolos**, assistant to head coach/secondary; **Todd Grantham**, defensive line coach; **Gene Huey**, running backs; **Tony Marciano**, tight ends; **Tom Moore**, offensive coordinator; **Howard Mudd**, offensive line; **Mike Murphy**, linebackers; **Jay Norvell**, receivers; **John Pagano**, defensive assistant; **Kevin Spencer**, special teams; **Jon Torine**, strength and conditioning; **Richard Howell**, assistant strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
14	Hobert, Billy Joe	QB 6-3	230	01/08/71	5	Washington
18	Manning, Peyton	QB 6-5	230	03/24/76	3	Tennessee
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
73	Meadows, Adam	T 6-5	295	01/25/74	4	Georgia
78	Glenn, Tarik	T 6-5	335	05/25/76	4	California
74	Jackson, Waverly	G 6-2	315	12/19/72	3	Virginia Tech
76	McKinney, Steve	G 6-4	302	10/15/75	3	Texas A&M
50	Moore, Larry	G 6-2	312	06/01/75	3	Brigham Young
63	Saturday, Jeff	C 6-2	295	06/08/75	2	North Carolina
54	Armour, Phillip	C 6-3	315	12/09/76	1	North Texas
69	Gilbert, Ben	G 6-4	316	06/06/78	0	Ohio State
72	Ridder, Tim	G 6-7	301	12/17/76	0	Notre Dame
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Jabbar, K.	RB 5-11	205	06/28/74	5	UCLA
32	James, Edgerrin	RB 6-0	216	08/01/78	2	Miami (FL)
36	Finn, Jim	RB 5-10	240	12/09/76	1	Pennsylvania
30	Gordon, Lennox	RB 5-11	201	04/09/78	2	New Mexico
43	McDougal, Kevin	RB 5-11	204	05/18/77	1	Colorado State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Dilger, Ken	TE 6-5	255	02/02/71	6	Illinois
81	Pollard, Marcus	TE 6-4	252	02/08/72	6	Bradley
88	Harrison, Marvin	WR 6-0	181	08/25/72	5	Syracuse
84	Green, E.G.	WR 5-11	190	06/28/75	3	Florida State
86	Pathon, Jerome	WR 6-0	187	12/16/75	3	Washington
80	Wilkins, Terrence	WR 5-8	179	07/29/75	2	Virginia
16	Haddad, Drew	WR 5-11	184	08/15/78	0	Buffalo
83	Keur, Josh	TE 6-4	283	09/04/76	1	Michigan State
48	Snow, Justin	TE 6-3	232	12/21/76	1	Baylor
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Bratzke, Chad	DE 6-5	275	09/15/71	7	Eastern Kentucky
62	Johnson, Ellis	DT 6-2	288	10/30/73	6	Florida
96	King, Shawn	DE 6-3	290	06/24/72	4	Northeast Louisiana
79	Holsey, Bernard	DE 6-2	285	12/10/73	5	Duke
99	Peter, Christian	DT 6-3	300	10/05/72	4	Nebraska
64	Chester, Larry	DT 6-2	310	10/17/75	3	Temple
99	Sciolli, Brad	DE 6-3	277	09/06/76	2	Penn State
93	Barnes, Lionel	DE 6-4	265	04/19/76	2	Northeast Louisiana
91	Nwokorie, Chukie	DE 6-2	286	07/10/75	2	Purdue
96	Williams, Josh	DT 6-3	284	08/09/76	1	Michigan
61	Renes, Rob	DT 6-1	308	03/28/77	0	Michigan
65	Miller, Brandon	DT 6-1	299	11/27/75	1	Georgia
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Burris, Jeff	CB 6-0	190	06/77/72	7	Notre Dame
37	Cota, Chad	S 6-1	195	08/13/71	6	Oregon
31	Crosby, Clifton	CB 5-9	172	09/17/74	1	Maryland
21	Muhammad, M.	CB 5-10	180	10/19/73	2	Fresno State
27	Macklin, David	CB 5-9	195	07/14/78	1	Penn State
42	Brooks, Rodregis	CB 5-10	181	08/30/78	0	UAB
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Peterson, Mike	LB 6-2	235	06/17/76	2	Florida
51	Glover, Phil	LB 5-11	241	12/17/75	2	Utah
98	Sword, Sam	LB 6-1	245	12/09/74	2	Michigan
94	Morris, Rob	LB 6-2	250	01/18/75	1	Brigham Young
53	Washington, Marcus	LB 6-3	247	10/17/77	1	Auburn
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Kight, Danny	K 6-0	214	08/18/71	2	Augustana College
12	Vanderjagt, Mike	K 6-5	210	03/24/70	3	West Virginia
17	Smith, Hunter	P 6-2	212	08/09/77	2	Notre Dame

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	30	Wayne, Reggie	WR	5-11	193	11/17/78	Miami (FL)
2	6	Bashir, Idrees	S	6-2	206	12/07/78	Memphis
3	29	Bird, Cory	S	5-10	218	08/10/78	Virginia Tech
4	23	Diem, Ryan	G	6-7	338	07/01/79	Northern Illinois
5	21	Walls, Raymond	CB	5-10	176	07/24/79	Southern Mississippi
6	30	Doering, Jason	S	5-11	200	04/22/78	Wisconsin
7	20	DeMulling, Rick	T	6-3	306	07/21/77	Idaho State



Can Fiedler and Smith conduct another symphonic offense to go with a strong Dolphin defense?

Never mind what Dave Wannstedt didn't do in his long, unhappy stay as the Chicago Bears' head coach. He appears to be the right fit in Miami. He also found something that eluded Don Shula in his final decade and Jimmy Johnson in his unsatisfactory hitch: a running game.

One of the wonders of the salary-cap/free-agency era is that Wannstedt found a way to win the championship of

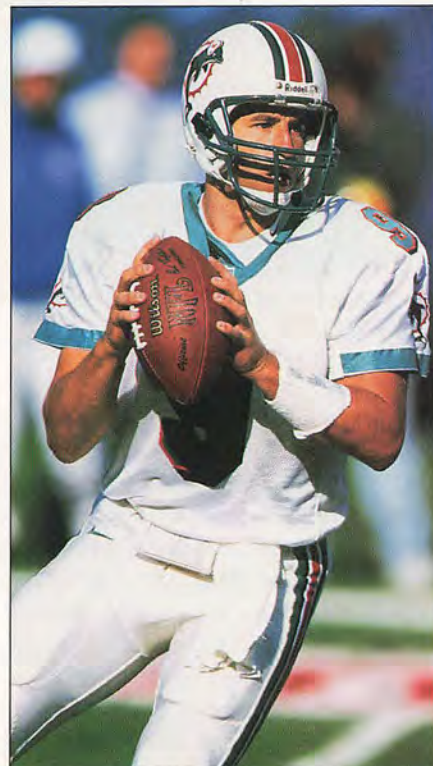
the competitive AFC East with **Jay Fiedler** (not to be confused with Dan Marino) as his starting quarterback. The coach will be hardpressed to pull a similar pigskin out of a helmet this year, but it's possible.

Will Lamar's luck run out?

The hang-up is the running game, specifically **Lamar Smith's** sterling part in it. Smith is 30 years old and he never had a season approaching his performance of 2000 in his previous six NFL seasons. And, oh yes, the week after he bled Indianapolis for 228 yards and dominated the overtime in Miami's come-from-behind playoff victory, the Raiders stuffed him on five yards in eight carries. Once Smith was stopped, the Dolphin offense was comatose. Once past Smith's 1,139 yards in his surprising regular season, the leading ball carrier was ... Fiedler!

That's why Wannstedt took a stab at acquiring Ricky Williams from New Orleans after the eccentric power back tried the patience of the Saints by toying with the idea of returning to baseball and stubbornly staying in San Diego to do offseason conditioning on his own. If Smith, injury-prone in the past, is unavailable for any significant portion of the season, the Dolphins are back to the days when they tried to make do with Marino's passing and role-player backs. The passing game is now the sideshow and the best role player may be rookie **Travis Minor**, who wasn't even a full-time starter at Florida State.

Lamar Smith came out of nowhere last season to rush for 1,139 yards and score 16 touchdowns.



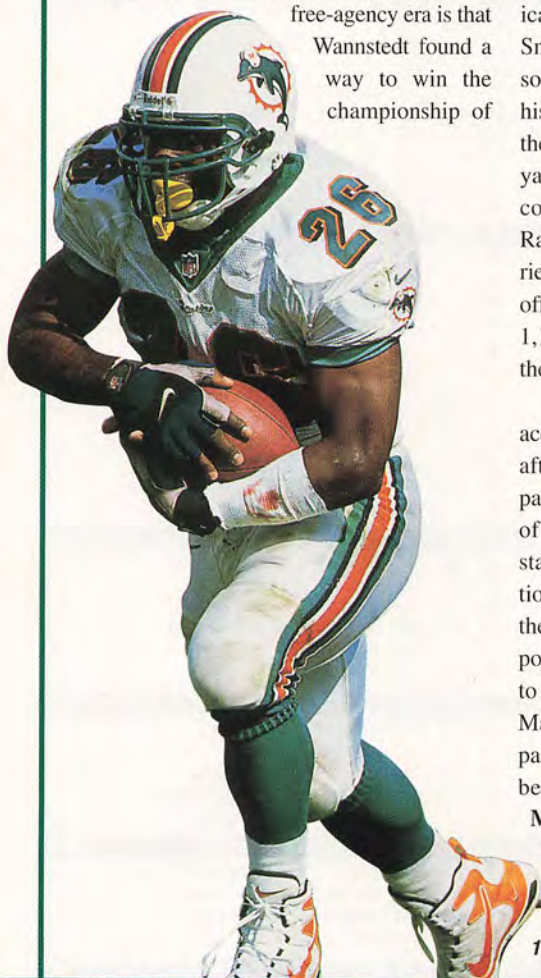
Jay Fiedler provided consistency at QB last season, once going 92 straight attempts without an interception.

Wannstedt needs to get his ducks in a row by opening day since his September schedule consists of three playoff teams—Tennessee, Oakland and St. Louis—plus a dangerous home opener against arch rival Buffalo.

Offensive line gets Wise

There will be at least three changes in the offensive line. The most important may be the arrival of Tony Wise, Wannstedt's line coach with the Bears and, before that, his colleague on Johnson's staffs with the Cowboys and Miami Hurricanes. Guard **Todd Perry**, whom Wise admires, was signed as a free agent from the Bears, and **Brent Smith** moves up to start at left tackle. **Tim Ruddy** is the veteran center with **Mark Dixon** at left guard and **Todd Wade**, who had a strong rookie year, at right tackle.

Miami was active in free agency, as well as stung by it. **Ray Lucas**, who had some bright moments as a spot starter with the Jets, will back up Fiedler at quarterback. **Marcus Spriggs**, who started at right tackle for



TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	278.8	26
RUSHING	118.4	14
PASSING	160.4	27
SCORING	323	16
PUNT RETURNS	13.3	4
KICK RETURNS	22.2	13T
RED ZONE TD %	54.3	8T

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	289.8	6
AGAINST RUSH	108.5	14
AGAINST PASS	181.3	5
PTS. ALLOWED	226	3
INTERCEPTIONS	28	1
SACKS	48	7
TURNOVER DIFF.	+15	5



O.J. MCDUFFIE
14 RECEPTIONS 143 YARDS

Buffalo in the last third of the season, providing depth on the line.

The most important signings may be at wide receiver. **James McKnight** led Dallas with 52 receptions and an average of 17.8 yards per catch. He and **Dedric Ward**, the ex-Jet, add something Miami hasn't had in a while: productive speed. The draft brought more speed in Wisconsin's **Chris Chambers**. **Oronde Gadsden** is a valuable possession receiver. Whoever plays tight end is basically a third tackle for the running game.

In 2000, this team won the division on the basis of its defense. Only Super Bowl champ Baltimore and Tennessee allowed fewer points than the Dolphins' 226. In nine games, all but one a Miami victory, the opposition was restricted to 14 or fewer points. Free agency may have changed that for the worse.

Taylor-made defense without a Trace

Lost from the Dolphin defense is Trace Armstrong, who led the AFC with 16.5 sacks, along with valuable sub Rich Owens, free safety Brock Marion and outside linebacker Robert Jones, a salary-cap casualty. Armstrong's strong pass rush helped free up **Jason Taylor**, who had 14.5 sacks and cost the team a fortune to retain. The Dolphins used their first draft pick on defense, but in a puzzling way. The selection was Wisconsin's small-but-talented corner **Jamar Fletcher**. Miami already had two superior corners, **Sam Madison** and **Patrick Surtain**, whose



The Dolphins believe free-agent pickup James McKnight will give the offense the game-breaking receiver it was missing last season.

contract was extended at a high price the year before it expired.

Did Miami really need Fletcher to the exclusion of positions with greater priority? The Dolphins led the NFL in interceptions with 28, seven by nickel back **Brian Walker**. Jones' release leaves a hole at strongside linebacker. Weakside backer **Derrick Rodgers** was re-signed and **Zach Thomas** is still the defensive leader in the

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 23-0	Seattle
09/10	L 7-13	at Minnesota
09/17	W 19-6	Baltimore
09/24	W 10-3	New England
10/01	W 31-16	at Cincinnati
10/08	W 22-13	Buffalo
10/23	L 37-40 OT	at New York Jets
10/29	W 28-20	Green Bay
11/05	W 23-8	at Detroit
11/12	W 17-7	at San Diego
11/19	L 3-20	New York Jets
11/26	W 17-14	at Indianapolis
12/03	W 33-6	at Buffalo
12/10	L 13-16	Tampa Bay
12/17	L 13-20	Indianapolis
12/24	W 27-24	at New England

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	309	1139	3.7	68t	14
Fiedler	54	267	4.9	30	1
Johnson	50	168	3.4	16	1
T. Thomas	28	136	4.9	25	0
Denson	31	108	3.5	12	0
Izzo	1	39	39.0	39	0
Konrad	15	39	2.6	5	0
Shepherd	4	3	0.8	14	0
Team	496	1894	3.8	68t	16
Opponents	417	1736	4.2	45	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Gadsden	56	786	14.0	61	6
Shepherd	35	446	12.7	46t	4
Smith	31	201	6.5	28	2
Martin	26	393	15.1	44	0
T. Thomas	16	117	7.3	15	1
Denson	14	105	7.5	28	0
Konrad	14	83	5.9	18	0
McDuffie	14	143	10.2	24	0
Johnson	10	61	6.1	11	0
Weaver	10	179	17.9	41	0
Emanuel	7	132	18.9	53t	1
Goodwin	6	36	6.0	9t	1
Ogden	2	24	12.0	12	0
Dyer	2	14	7.0	13	0
Team	243	2720	11.2	61	15
Opponents	282	3170	11.2	59	13

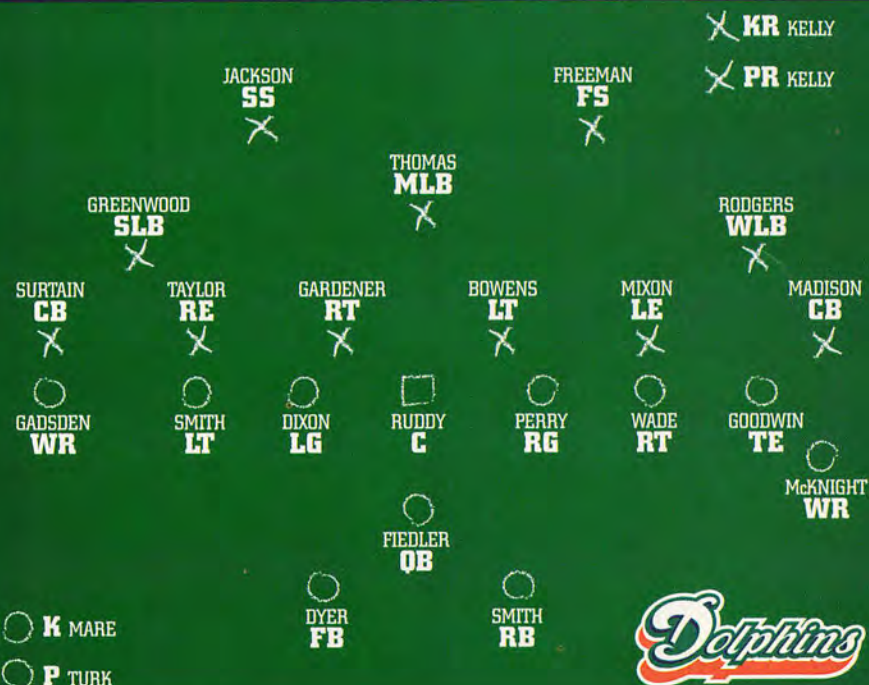
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Fiedler	357	204	2402	14	14
Huard	63	39	318	1	3
Smith	1	0	0	0	0
Team	421	243	2720	15	17
Opponents	530	282	3170	13	28

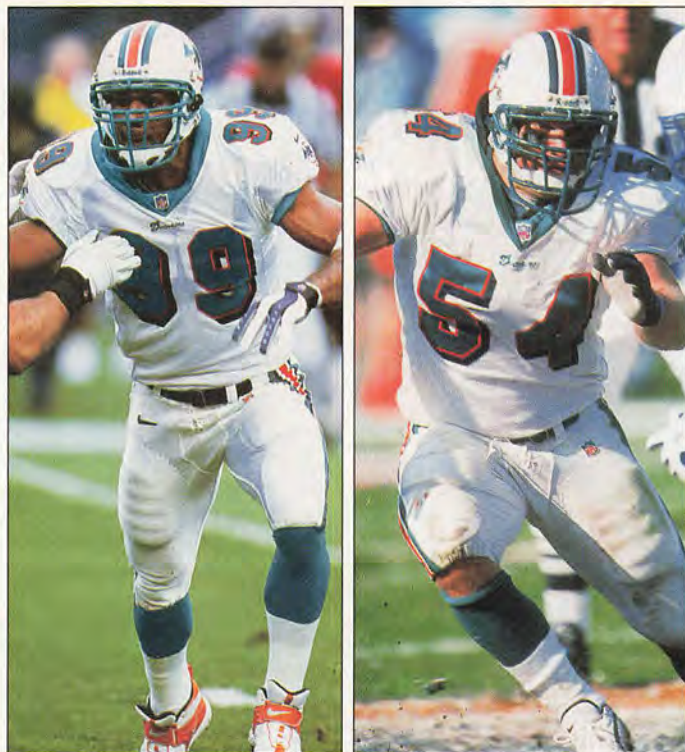
SACKS

Armstrong 16.5, Taylor 14.5, Bowens 2.5, Gardener 2.5, Mixon 2.5, Bromell 2.0, Walker 2.0, Haley 1.5, Z. Thomas 1.5, Surtain 1.0

Team 48.0, Opponents 28.0

PROJECTED STARTERS





With Trace Armstrong gone, Jason Taylor (left) and Zach Thomas are now the unquestioned leaders of the Miami defense.

middle. The draft brings Syracuse's **Morlon Greenwood**, whose forte is speed and pursuit. If Marion isn't re-signed, **Arturo Freeman** gets the free safety job. **Calvin Jackson** is the experienced strong safety.

Even without Armstrong, the line is still the key to the defensive accomplishments. Running inside against Miami is mostly a fruitless task with monster tackles **Tim Bowens** and **Daryl Gardener** protecting Thomas, their tackling machine, when they aren't stuffing runners themselves. **Kenny Mixon** should replace Owens against the run, while **Lorenzo Bromell** can be a force as relief for Gardener or Bowens.

Since **Olindo Mare**'s field goals are such a large part of the Miami offense, he was re-signed to a rich contract. He connected on 28 of 31 attempts. There will be an attempt to improve upon **Matt Turk**'s punting. **Ben Kelly**, hindered by injuries in his rookie season, could save a spot on the roster since he's a quality cornerback and return man. ■



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Tennessee	8:30
2	9/16	BUFFALO	1:00
3	9/23	OAKLAND	1:00
4	9/30	at St. Louis	1:00
5	10/7	NEW ENGLAND	1:00
6	10/14	at N.Y. Jets	4:15
7	10/21	OPEN DATE	
8	10/28	at Seattle	4:15
9	11/4	CAROLINA	1:00
10	11/11	at Indianapolis	1:00
11	11/18	N.Y. JETS	1:00
12	11/25	at Buffalo	1:00
13	12/2	DENVER	1:00
14	12/10	INDIANAPOLIS	9:00
15	12/16	at San Francisco	4:05
16	12/22	at New England	12:30
17	12/30	ATLANTA	1:00

*All times Eastern

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Dave Wannstedt, head coach

Jim Bates, defensive coordinator; Doug Blevins, kicking; Clarence Brooks, defensive line; Joel Collier, running backs; Robert Ford, receivers; Chan Gailey, offensive coordinator; John Gamble, strength and conditioning; Pat Jones, tight ends; Bill Lewis, defensive nickel package; Mel Phillips, secondary; Brad Roll, assistant strength and conditioning; Mike Shula, quarterbacks; Keith Armstrong, special teams; Robert Nunn, defensive assistant; Bob Sanders, linebackers; Tony Wise, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Fiedler, Jay	QB 6-2	225	12/29/71	3	Dartmouth
6	Lucas, Ray	QB 6-3	214	08/06/72	5	Rutgers
4	Quinn, Mike	QB 6-4	215	04/15/74	2	Stephen F. Austin
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
75	Perry, Todd	G 6-5	308	11/28/70	8	Kentucky
61	Ruddy, Tim	C 6-3	305	04/27/72	7	Notre Dame
60	Bock, John	G 6-3	295	02/11/71	6	Indiana State
66	Irwin, Heath	G 6-4	300	06/27/73	4	Colorado
74	Smith, Brent	T 6-5	315	11/21/73	3	Mississippi State
69	Spriggs, Marcus	T 6-3	315	05/17/74	4	Houston
62	Andersen, Jason	C 6-6	305	09/03/75	2	Brigham Young
63	Dixon, Mark	G 6-4	300	11/26/70	3	Virginia
64	Cesario, Anthony	G 6-5	310	07/19/76	0	Colorado
73	Palmer, Dan	C 6-4	290	08/24/73	0	Air Force
71	Wade, Todd	T 6-8	325	10/30/76	1	Mississippi
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Smith, Lamar	RB 5-11	229	11/29/70	7	Houston
32	Johnson, J.J.	RB 6-1	232	04/24/74	2	Mississippi State
44	Konrad, Rob	RB 6-3	255	11/12/76	2	Syracuse
21	Denson, Autry	RB 5-10	195	12/08/76	2	Notre Dame
33	Dyer, Deon	RB 5-11	255	10/02/77	1	North Carolina
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
81	McDuffie, O.J.	WR 5-10	195	12/02/69	8	Penn State
85	Thomas, Lamar	WR 6-1	175	02/12/70	6	Miami (FL)
82	McKnight, James	WR 6-1	198	06/17/72	6	Liberty
83	Goodwin, Hunter	TE 6-5	270	10/10/72	5	Texas A&M
86	Gadsden, Oronde	WR 6-2	215	08/20/71	3	Winston-Salem
	Ward, Dedric	WR 5-9	184	09/29/74	4	Northern Iowa
89	Perry, Ed	TE 6-4	270	09/01/74	4	James Madison
82	Anderson, Ronnie	WR 6-1	190	02/27/75	1	Allegheny
46	Mayes, Alonzo	TE 6-4	265	06/04/75	3	Oklahoma State
80	Alford, Brian	WR 6-1	190	06/07/75	2	Purdue
88	Ogden, Jeff	WR 6-0	190	02/22/75	3	Eastern Washington
	Weaver, Jed	TE 6-4	246	08/11/76	2	Oregon
48	Heffner-Liddiard, B.	TE 6-4	234	06/12/77	1	Colorado
15	Savage, Damon	WR 5-10	185	02/01/76	0	Tulsa
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
95	Bowens, Tim	DT 6-4	320	02/07/73	7	Mississippi
92	Gardener, Daryl	DT 6-6	317	02/25/73	5	Baylor
99	Taylor, Jason	DE 6-6	260	09/01/74	4	Akron
79	Mixon, Kenny	DE 6-4	285	03/31/75	3	LSU
91	Bromell, Lorenzo	DE 6-6	275	09/23/75	3	Clemson
94	Haley, Jermaine	DT 6-4	305	02/23/73	1	Butte
97	Grant, Ernest	DT 6-5	310	05/17/76	1	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
45	Walker, Brian	S 6-1	205	05/31/72	5	Washington State
29	Madison, Sam	CB 5-11	185	04/23/74	4	Louisville
24	Cousin, Terry	CB 5-9	187	03/11/75	4	South Carolina
22	Porter, Daryl	CB 5-9	187	01/16/74	4	Boston College
23	Surtain, Patrick	CB 5-11	192	06/19/76	3	Southern Mississippi
38	Williams, Kevin	S 6-0	190	08/04/75	3	Oklahoma State
46	Johnson, Paris	S 6-3	220	01/18/76	0	Miami (OH)
35	Kelly, Ben	CB 5-9	185	09/15/78	1	Colorado
27	Freeman, Arturo	S 6-0	195	10/27/76	1	South Carolina
30	Harris, Jeff	CB 5-11	192	07/19/77	0	Georgia
42	Gamble, Trent	S 5-9	195	07/24/77	1	Wyoming
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
54	Thomas, Zach	LB 5-11	235	09/01/73	5	Texas Tech
58	Gaylon, Scott	LB 6-2	242	03/23/74	5	Tennessee
59	Rodgers, Derrick	LB 6-1	230	10/14/71	4	Arizona State
56	Russell, Twan	LB 6-1	228	04/25/74	4	Miami (FL)
58	Hemsley, Nate	LB 6-0	219	05/15/74	3	Syracuse
51	Hendricks, Tommy	LB 6-2	231	10/23/78	1	Michigan
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Turk, Matt	P 6-5	250	06/16/68	6	Wisconsin-Whitewater
10	Mare, Olindo	K 5-10	195	06/06/73	4	Syracuse

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	26	Fletcher, Jamar	CB	5-8	180	08/28/79	Wisconsin
2	21	Chambers, Chris	WR	5-11	206	08/12/78	Wisconsin
3	23	Minor, Travis	RB	5-10	195	06/30/79	Florida State
3	26	Greenwood, Morlon	LB	6-0	237	07/17/78	Syracuse
5	25	Draper, Shawn	T	6-3	303	07/05/79	Alabama
6	1	Winey, Brandon	T	6-6	305	01/27/78	LSU
6	14	Heupel, Josh	QB	6-1	215	03/22/78	Oklahoma
6	24	Leverette, Otis	DE	6-6	285	05/31/78	UAB
6	25	Crowell, Rick	LB	6-2	242	05/21/77	Colorado State

LEFT: JOE ROBBINS; RIGHT: TOMASSO DEROSA

Flutie's flight, a new coach, a new defense and a new GM launch Bills into the great unknown.

The Bills finally solved their quarterback dilemma, but little else. Doug Flutie is gone and **Rob Johnson** is the undisputed No. 1.

The remaining questions include whether the new GM, Tom Donahoe, is as effective a team builder as the deposed one, John Butler; whether the new coach, Gregg Williams, can win as much as the fired one, Wade Phillips; and whether the new defensive system, the 4-3, installed by new defensive coordinator Jerry Gray is able to perform as explosively as the old one, the 3-4 under Ted Cottrell.

Williams is one of the bright, young coaches in the NFL, but Phillips never had a losing season in his three years at Buffalo's helm. He followed 11-5 and 10-6 seasons with last year's 8-8 mark, but his dismissal was the result of his indecision over Flutie and Johnson, as well as his refusal to carry out owner Ralph Wilson's command to fire the disastrous special teams coach, Ronnie Jones.

Wilson, 82, gave up his title as president for the first time when he hired Donahoe, the ex-Steelers director of football. Donahoe is more the CEO type, but when Butler replaced Bill Polian in 1992 he continued an era of winning football the length of which Buffalo had never seen before. Because of all that winning, Butler almost never got to draft until the selections reached the 20s. Nevertheless, he kept replacing departed stars with young stars. That's not easy.

Redrawing the line

For the previous two seasons the Bills were essentially a defensive team, but now they've lost two-thirds of their line, with glitzy young defensive end Marcellus Wiley having followed Butler to San Diego, and mammoth run-stopper Ted Washington released because of salary-cap pressures. Under Gray, the defense must find three new defensive starters and hope that **Sam Cowart**,

second only to Baltimore's Ray Lewis as an inside linebacker, will find equal happiness on the outside.

Williams hired Mike Sheppard from coach Mike Holmgren's Seattle staff to install the West Coast offense. The new deep thinkers are convinced it will keep Johnson from suffering anything close to the 49 sacks inflicted upon him last season. Johnson has been a concussion-a-year man since the Bills traded with Jacksonville to get him. Part of his woes centered around the often inept play of the offensive line, but another part of it was Johnson's own tendency to hang on to the ball too long, trying to make the perfect play. Not unloading in the face of storming pass rushers may be courageous, but didn't someone once point out that "discretion is the better part of valor?"

Draft day dozen provides help

The Bills need so much help in so many places that Donahoe wheeled and dealt his way to a dozen draft choices. Presumably, most of them will make the team. One important rookie is running back **Travis Henry** of Tennessee. He gives Buffalo something it has been lacking, a feature back who is accustomed to carrying the ball 25 to 35 times a game. Buffalo has been functioning with running back by committee. **Sammy Morris** and **Shawn Bryson** are promising role players, but you can't run play-action passes with role players, and that's another thing the Bills need to protect Johnson.

The offensive line also has been refashioned. The solid part is the left with veteran tackle **John Fina** and Pro Bowl guard **Ruben Brown**. Williams made a quick decision to

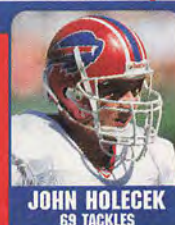


Rob Johnson (top) now has the Buffalo QB spot all to himself, but Pro Bowler Sam Cowart must adjust to a new spot on defense.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	343.6	9
RUSHING	120.1	13
PASSING	223.5	11
SCORING	315	20
PUNT RETURNS	5.0	31
KICK RETURNS	18.3	31
RED ZONE TD %	48.2	17

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	276.6	3
AGAINST RUSH	97.4	6
AGAINST PASS	179.2	4
PTS. ALLOWED	350	18
INTERCEPTIONS	16	18T
SACKS	42	11T
TURNOVER DIFF.	+6	10



JOHN HOLECEK
69 TACKLES



Fullback Shawn Bryson (left) and wide receivers Eric Moulds (center) and Peerless Price helped the Bills finish sixth in AFC total offense last year.

move Jerry Ostroski from center to right guard. Little-used Bill Conaty gets the first chance to start at center. Donahoe signed Kris Farris, once a promising rookie with Pittsburgh, to battle Robert Hicks for the right tackle job. Williams wants slimmer and more mobile linemen in the new offense.

Moulds' millions

The Bills spent a \$12 million signing bonus to assure that their great receiver, Eric Moulds, would remain the centerpiece of the passing game. There have been many outstanding receivers in the history of the franchise, but none had 94 catches in a season as Moulds did in 2000 nor experienced

back-to-back 1,300-yard seasons. Peerless Price or Jeremy McDaniel must step out as more useful accomplices for Moulds. Price is the starter but McDaniel was more explosive in the three-receiver sets. When tight end Jay Riemersma suffered a sprained knee and missed four games early in the season, the Bills lost three of them. It was a barometer of his worth to the attack.

The depleted defensive line retains only veteran left end Phil Hansen. Pat Williams, another monster run stuffer, will start at one tackle with Norwegian strongman Leif Larsen getting the first shot as his partner. Erik Flowers, last year's top pick, starts at right end after playing only occasionally last

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 8, Lost 8

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 16-13	Tennessee
09/10	W 27-18	Green Bay
09/17	L 14-27	at New York Jets
10/01	L 16-18	Indianapolis
10/08	L 13-22	at Miami
10/15	W 27-24 OT	San Diego
10/22	L 27-31	at Minnesota
10/29	W 23-20	N.Y. Jets
11/05	W 16-13 OT	at New England
11/12	W 20-3	Chicago
11/19	W 21-17	at Kansas City
11/26	L 17-31	at Tampa Bay
12/03	L 6-33	Miami
12/11	L 20-44	at Indianapolis
12/17	L 10-13 OT	New England
12/23	W 42-23	at Seattle

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bryson	161	591	3.7	24	0
Smith	101	354	3.5	59	4
Morris	93	341	3.7	32t	5
Johnson	42	307	7.3	23	1
Flutie	36	161	4.5	32	1
Linton	38	112	2.9	12	0
Price	2	32	16.0	27	0
Moulds	2	24	12.0	20	0
Team	475	1922	4.0	59	11
Opponents	444	1599	3.5	39t	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Moulds	94	1326	14.1	52	5
Price	52	762	14.7	42	3
McDaniel	43	697	16.2	74t	2
Morris	37	268	7.2	24	1
Bryson	32	271	8.5	32	2
Riemersma	31	372	12.0	35	5
Collins	6	72	12.0	23	0
Jackson	5	36	7.2	12	1
Cavil	4	66	16.5	39	0
Smith	3	20	6.7	9	0
Linton	3	8	2.7	4t	1
Porter	1	44	44.0	44	0
Team	312	3936	12.6	74t	20
Opponents	283	3175	11.2	63	18

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Johnson	306	175	2125	12	7
Flutie	231	132	1700	8	3
Van Pelt	8	4	67	0	0
Mohr	1	1	44	0	0
Team	546	312	3936	20	10
Opponent	480	283	3175	18	16

SACKS

Wiley 10.5, Newman 8.0, Cowart 5.5, Rogers 5.0, Washington 2.5, Williams 2.5, Hansen 2.0, Flowers 2.0, Jones 1.0, Larsen 1.0, Moore 1.0, Price 1.0

Team 42.0, Opponents 59.0

PROJECTED STARTERS



season. Rookie **Aaron Schobel**, a quick pass rusher from TCU, should see frequent duty.

The strength is the linebacking. Pro Bowler Cowart was leading the NFL in tackles until an ankle injury ended his season with a month to play. His move to the weakside will leave **John Holecek**, who had double-digit tackles in six of the last eight games, at middle linebacker. **Keith Newman**, who had a breakout year in his first as a starter last season, was second on the team with eight sacks.

It should be only a matter of time before the top rookie, Ohio State cornerback **Nate Clements**, trades his nickel back job to **Ken Irvin** for a starting spot opposite his old Buckeye teammate, **Antoine Winfield**. Winfield was breaking out as a pro sophomore until an injury kept him

out of action for the last month. **Keion Carpenter** was playing well, too, and led the Bills with five interceptions, but also missed the final month. Ten-year veteran **Henry Jones** directs traffic from his strong safety position.

Aside from veteran **Steve Christie's** 26-for-35 field goal accuracy, the special teams proved to be a real train wreck: NFL-lowest in punt return average, kickoff returns, punt return yardage; AFC-low in punting average, drive starts and opponents' drive starts.

"We will be much better on special teams," Williams says. "I guarantee it."

The improvement began with the re-signing of Christie, who has won 13 games for Buffalo with field goals in the final minute of regulation or in overtime. The poor kickoffs

last season were largely a matter of weird coaching strategy. Many of the rookies were drafted with an eye toward special teams play.



Offensive guard Ruben Brown earned his fifth straight trip to the Pro Bowl last season.

2001 SCHEDULE				
WEEK				
1	9/9	NEW ORLEANS	1:00	
2	9/16	at Miami	1:00	
3	9/23	at Indianapolis	1:00	
4	9/30	PITTSBURGH	1:00	
5	10/7	N.Y. JETS	4:05	
6	10/14	OPEN DATE		
7	10/18	at Jacksonville	8:30	
8	10/28	at San Diego	4:15	
9	11/4	INDIANAPOLIS	4:15	
10	11/11	at New England	1:00	
11	11/18	SEATTLE	1:00	
12	11/25	MIAMI	1:00	
13	12/2	at San Francisco	8:30	
14	12/9	CAROLINA	1:00	
15	12/16	NEW ENGLAND	1:00	
16	12/23	at Atlanta	1:00	
17	12/30	at N.Y. Jets	1:00	

*All times Eastern

BUFFALO BILLS

Gregg Williams, head coach

Chuck Lester, administrative assistant to the head coach/defensive assistant;
Pat Thomas, defensive backs; Jerry Gray, defensive coordinator;
Mike Sheppard, offensive coordinator; Steve Fairchild, running backs;
Fred Graves, receivers; Danny Smith, special teams; Rusty Jones, strength and conditioning;
Miles Aldridge, linebackers coach; John Levra, defensive line;
Ronnie Vinkler, offensive line; Steve Kragthorpe, quarterbacks;
Steve Jackson, assistant defensive backs/third down specialist;
Tommy Kaiser, offensive and special team assistant; Dan Neal, tight ends coach

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Van Pelt, Alex	QB	6-1	220	05/01/70	6 Pittsburgh
11	Johnson, Rob	QB	6-4	212	03/18/73	6 Southern California
7	Gonzalez, Pete	QB	6-1	220	07/04/74	1 Pittsburgh

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
70	Fina, John	T	6-5	300	03/11/69	9 Arizona
60	Ostroski, Jerry	C	6-3	327	07/12/70	7 Tulsa
79	Brown, Ruben	G	6-3	304	02/13/72	6 Pittsburgh
63	Conaty, Bill	C	6-2	300	03/08/73	4 Virginia Tech
66	Allotey, Victor	G	6-3	320	04/08/75	0 Indiana
77	Hicks, Robert	T	6-7	330	11/17/74	3 Mississippi State
65	Carman, Jon	T	6-7	335	01/14/76	1 Georgia Tech

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Smith, Antowain	RB	6-2	228	03/14/72	4 Houston
35	Linton, Jonathan	RB	6-1	234	11/07/74	3 North Carolina
38	Bryson, Shawn	RB	6-1	233	11/30/76	1 Tennessee
88	Jackson, Sheldon	RB	6-3	250	07/24/76	2 Nebraska
45	Morris, Sammy	RB	6-0	228	03/23/77	1 Texas Tech

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Moulds, Eric	WR	6-2	204	07/17/73	5 Mississippi State
85	Riemersma, Jay	TE	6-5	254	05/17/73	4 Michigan
81	Price, Peerless	WR	6-0	190	10/27/76	2 Tennessee
84	Collins, Bobby	TE	6-4	248	08/26/76	2 North Alabama
86	McDaniel, Jeremy	WR	6-0	197	05/02/76	2 Arizona
89	Black, Avion	WR	5-11	181	04/24/77	1 Tennessee State
82	Cavil, Kwame	WR	6-2	203	05/03/79	1 Texas

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
90	Hansen, Phil	DE	6-5	273	05/20/68	10 North Dakota State
93	Williams, Pat	DT	6-3	310	10/24/72	4 Texas A&M
94	Fisher, Bryce	DT	6-3	263	05/12/77	0 Air Force
96	Flowers, Erik	DE	6-4	270	03/01/78	1 Arizona State
97	Larsen, Leif	DT	6-4	295	04/03/75	1 UTEP

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Jones, Henry	S	6-0	200	12/29/67	10 Illinois
27	Irvin, Ken	CB	5-11	186	07/11/72	6 Memphis
29	Brown, Lance	CB	6-2	203	02/02/72	4 Indiana
24	Hill, Ray	CB	6-0	192	08/07/75	3 Michigan State
26	Winfield, Antoine	CB	5-9	180	06/24/77	2 Ohio State
21	Watson, Chris	CB	6-1	192	06/30/77	2 Eastern Illinois
29	Carpenter, Keion	S	5-11	205	10/31/77	2 Virginia Tech
28	Tillman, Travares	S	6-1	190	10/08/77	1 Georgia Tech
39	Hill, Raion	S	6-0	200	09/02/76	1 LSU

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Holecek, John	LB	6-2	242	05/07/72	5 Illinois
56	Cowart, Sam	LB	6-2	245	02/26/75	3 Florida State
53	Newman, Keith	LB	6-2	245	01/19/77	2 North Carolina
55	Foreman, Jay	LB	6-1	240	02/18/76	2 Nebraska
54	Moore, Corey	LB	5-11	225	03/20/77	1 Virginia Tech
51	Polk, DaShon	LB	6-2	235	03/13/77	1 Arizona
99	Jones, Fred	LB	6-2	246	10/18/77	1 Colorado
98	Wright, Kenyatta	LB	6-0	238	02/19/78	1 Oklahoma State

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Christie, Steve	K	6-0	195	11/13/67	11 William & Mary
	Pidgeon, Pat	P	5-10	202	06/09/77	0 Penn State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	21	Clements, Nate	CB	5-11	207	12/12/79	Ohio State
2	15	Schobel, Aaron	DE	6-3	263	04/01/77	Texas Christian
2	27	Henry, Travis	RB	5-9	225	10/29/78	Tennessee
3	14	Edwards, Ron	NT	6-2	293	07/12/79	Texas A&M
3	33	Jennings, Jonas	T	6-3	332	11/21/77	Georgia
4	15	Spoon, Brandon	LB	6-2	247	07/05/78	North Carolina
5	13	Sullivan, Marques	T	6-5	338	02/02/78	Illinois
6	15	Driver, Tony	S	6-1	215	08/04/77	Notre Dame
6	32	O'Leary, Dan	TE	6-3	252	09/01/77	Notre Dame
6	33	Williams, Jimmy	CB	5-10	188	03/10/79	Vanderbilt
7	14	Germany, Reggie	WR	6-1	183	03/19/78	Ohio State
7	38	Robertson, Tyrone	DT	6-3	275	—	Hinds JC (MS)

AFC EAST

Jets won't fly high for new coach Edwards, but expect Pennington to emerge from Testaverde's shadow.

The Jets' yearly outlook seems to change in a series of blurs. Personalities here and then gone, the Super Bowl just a step away and then—illusion. They make a full restart this time, from a new owner to the strong possibility of a new quarterback.

When Al Groh became the second Jets coach to resign in a year, and then Bill Parcells severed himself from the organization by resigning as director of football, the Parcells era itself seemed to have taken place an eon ago. This is a franchise without an identity now. Woody Johnson, the new owner, has no connection with any previous NFL

team. Herman Edwards, the new coach, had no connection to Parcells, Groh or even Bill Belichick, the Jets' erstwhile coach-for-a-day in 2000. The new GM, Terry Bradway, made his bones with other NFL teams.

The Jets are now strangers in Gotham and even the most rabid of the team's fans has no realistic idea which direction will be taken. The only thing which seems sure is that whatever direction is taken, eventually **Chad Pennington** is the quarterback who will be charged with leading them.

One of the few identifiable traces Parcells left behind was the Jets' first round of last year's draft, when he had four picks. The early returns suggest that the "Big Tuna" may have hit it big on all four. The most obvious was defensive end **Shaun Ellis**, whose 8.5 sacks made his debut one of the most promising of any rookie pass rusher in Jets history. **Anthony Becht** started five of the last seven games at tight end, catching nine of his 16 passes during that period. Linebacker **John Abraham** played just the first six games before suffering a season-ending abdominal injury, but he was flying before he got hurt. He had 4.5 sacks and two forced fumbles in that short span.

Chad hanging loose

The least productive first-rounder—but the most intriguing—is Pennington. His only real action was in a garbage-time role when he threw for the Jets' only touchdown in a one-sided loss to the Raiders. What makes

Defensive end Shaun Ellis exceeded everyone's expectations for his rookie season, finishing with 8.5 sacks.



Workhorse Curtis Martin rushed for more than 1,000 yards for the sixth straight season in 2000.

Pennington so exciting is, first, his skills, especially his intelligence and passing arm, and, secondly, Vinny Testaverde's age (38 in November) and the veteran quarterback's out-of-place status on a team looking to 2003, not 2001.

Chances are that Testaverde will begin the season as the starter and Edwards will watch how his team fares early in the season in a division that is still extremely competitive. If it appears the Jets can make a run for it, Vinny stays in command. But Testaverde's success with the Jets had a lot to do with Parcells' strong influence, and now he's gone. If the team falters early, it's likely the future will overtake the present and Pennington would assume command.

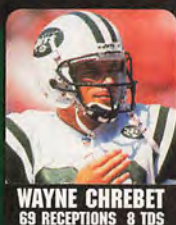
The identity of the quarterback may be less important than the question of **Curtis Martin's** staying power. Martin reached 1,000 yards for the sixth consecutive season, was voted the Jets' MVP and was named a Pro Bowl alternate. Yet, in the final 10 games his overall performance was masked by a career-high 209 yards rushing against Indianapolis' soft run defense. He had another 99-yard game against the Colts in that stretch. But in



NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	337.2 12
RUSHING	91.9 24
PASSING	245.3 6
SCORING	321 17T
PUNT RETURNS	7.3 27
KICK RETURNS	21.0 23
RED ZONE TD %	52.8 11

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	301.3 10T
AGAINST RUSH	118.0 23
AGAINST PASS	183.3 6
PTS. ALLOWED	321 13
INTERCEPTIONS	21 6T
SACKS	40 14T
TURNOVER DIFF.	-5 20T



WAYNE CHREBET
69 RECEPTIONS 8 TDS

the other 10 games he averaged just 48 yards per game. Those numbers were a symptom of the Jets' slide out of playoff contention. To compete once again, Edwards and new offensive coordinator Paul Hackett must find a way to refresh Martin, who has more than 2,000 career carries, or find an alternative. That's why a second-round draft pick was used on running back **LaMont Jordan** of Maryland.

Moss grows on passing game

Bradway's first No. 1 pick, Miami smurf **Santana Moss**, could awaken the passing game. With Keyshawn Johnson gone, Jet backs caught 158 passes, which is out of whack. Hackett is installing the West Coast offense so that Moss and ex-Viking **Matthew Hatchette** might create some room for veteran receiver **Wayne Chrebet** to roam. Fullback **Richie Anderson**, whose 88 catches sent him in the Pro Bowl, isn't likely to be as busy this season but he's still valuable.

Pro Bowl center **Kevin Mawae** anchors the offensive line, which is young and developing. Right guard **Randy Thomas** is coming on strongly. Left tackle **Jason Fabini** and left guard **Kerry Jenkins** enter their fourth season and right tackle **Ryan Young** his third.

Ted's next adventure

The new defensive coordinator is Ted Cottrell, whose work with Buffalo's strong defense earned heavy praise. He'll use the 4-3 set that Edwards prefers. Ellis and



Versatile Richie Anderson made the Pro Bowl after hauling in 88 catches from his fullback position last season.

Shane Burton are the ends, with the two Jasons, Wilz and Ferguson, at the tackles. Linebacker **Mo Lewis** is the defensive leader who comes up biggest in the big games. He had a personal-best 10 sacks last season, but he's about far more than rushing the passer. **James Farrior** plays the strongside, but he hasn't been the player the Jets expected him to be and could be challenged. Middle backer **Marvin Jones** is the man when New York needs to close down enemy rushing. Abraham is the top reserve. Dwayne Gordon was released.

Cornerback **Aaron Glenn** is solid and steady, but the big-play man in the secondary

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 20-16	at Green Bay
09/11	W 20-19	New England
09/17	W 27-14	Buffalo
09/24	W 21-17	at Tampa Bay
10/08	L 3-20	Pittsburgh
10/15	W 34-17	at New England
10/23	W 40-37	Miami
10/29	L 20-23	at Buffalo
11/05	L 23-30	Denver
11/12	L 15-23	at Indianapolis
11/19	W 20-3 OT	at Miami
11/26	W 17-10	Chicago
12/03	W 27-17	Indianapolis
12/10	L 7-31	at Oakland
12/17	L 7-10	Detroit
12/24	L 20-34	at Baltimore

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Martin	316	1204	3.8	55	9
Parmalee	27	87	3.2	18t	2
R. Anderson	27	63	2.3	9	0
Lucas	2	42	7.0	17	0
Testaverde	25	32	1.3	15	0
Ward	4	23	5.8	12	0
Coles	2	15	7.5	8	0
Lewis	1	3	3.0	3	0
Stone	3	3	1.0	9	0
W. Hayes	1	2	2.0	2	0
Pennington	1	0	0	0	0
Sowell	2	0	0	1	0
Team	418	1471	3.5	55	11
Opponents	476	1888	4.0	68t	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
R. Anderson	88	853	9.7	41	2
Martin	70	508	7.3	31	2
Chrebet	69	937	13.6	50	8
Ward	54	801	14.8	61	3
Coles	22	370	16.8	63	1
Becht	16	144	9.0	30	2
Parmalee	9	66	7.3	18	0
W. Hayes	6	126	21.0	32	0
Sowell	6	84	14.0	62	0
Brisby	4	60	15.0	19	0
Baxter	4	22	5.5	12t	2
Wiggins	2	4	2.0	3	1
Coleman	1	45	45.0	45t	1
Elliott	1	3	3.0	3t	1
Team	352	4023	11.4	63	23
Opponents	265	3166	11.9	75	17

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Testaverde	590	328	3732	21	25
Lucas	41	21	206	0	4
Pennington	5	2	67	1	0
Martin	1	1	18	1	0
Team	637	352	4023	23	29
Opponents	517	265	3166	17	21

SACKS

Lewis 10.0, Ellis 8.5, Cox 6.0, Farrior 6.0, Abraham 4.5, Phifer 4.0, Burton 1.0, Ferguson 1.0, Frost 1.0, Lyle 1.0, Jones 1.0, Wiltz 1.0
Team 40.0, Opponents 20.0

PROJECTED STARTERS





New Jets coach Herman Edwards (left) will watch defensive leader Mo Lewis go for his fourth straight Pro Bowl appearance this season.



is the opposite corner, **Marcus Coleman**. He had three interceptions in New York's upset of the Dolphins, locked down dangerous Marcus Robinson in a victory over the Bears and, as an extra receiver, caught a 48-yard "Hail Mary" pass that broke open a tight game against Buffalo.

The most underrated defensive back is strong safety **Victor Green**, who led the team in interceptions and also finished second in tackles with 105. He also had four fumble recoveries. The free safety is **Chris Hayes**, who's also open to a challenge.

Moss brings a new dimension to the Jets' special teams. He returned four punts for touchdowns as a Miami senior. **Laveranues Coles** and **Glenn** are dangerous kickoff return men. With widely admired Mike Westhoff hired as the new special teams coach, placekicker **John Hall**'s long kickoffs may be sacrificed for directional kicking. Hall, a free spirit who can irritate coaches, had a so-so season, missing half his field goal tries in the vital 40- to 49-yard range. Veteran **Tom Tupa** continues to be a good punter.

NEW YORK JETS

Herman Edwards, head coach

Paul Hackett, offensive coordinator; Ted Cottrell, assistant to the head coach/defensive coordinator; Mike Westhoff, special teams coach; Mose Rison, wide receivers coach; Bill Bradley, defensive backs coach; Phil Petey, tight ends; Rubin Carter, defensive line coach

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
16	Testaverde, Vinny	QB 6-5	235	11/13/63	14	Miami (FL)
10	Pennington, Chad	QB 6-3	225	06/26/76	1	Marshall

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
76	Elliott, Jumbo	T	6-7	305	04/01/65	13	Michigan
68	Mawae, Kevin	B	6-4	305	01/23/71	7	LSU
71	Jenkins, Kerry	G	6-5	305	09/06/73	4	Troy State
69	Fabini, Jason	T	6-7	312	08/25/74	3	Cincinnati
77	Thomas, Randy	G	6-4	301	01/19/76	2	Mississippi State
79	Loverne, David	G	6-3	299	05/22/76	1	San Jose State
63	Machado, J.P.	C	6-4	300	01/06/76	2	Illinois
74	Young, Ryan	T	6-5	320	06/28/76	2	Kansas State
70	Slaughter, Chad	T	6-7	320	06/04/78	0	Alcorn State
78	Green, Cornell	T	6-6	320	08/25/74	0	Central Florida

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Anderson, Richie	RB	6-2	230	09/13/71	8 Penn State
28	Martin, Curtis	RB	5-11	210	05/01/73	6 Pittsburgh
33	Sowell, Jerald	RB	6-0	245	01/21/74	4 Tulane
26	Jackson, Marlon	RB	6-2	235	10/11/77	0 Saginaw Valley

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Chrebet, Wayne	WR	5-10	188	08/14/73	6 Hofstra
84	Slutzker, Scott	TE	6-4	254	12/20/72	4 Iowa
89	Hatchette, Matthew	WR	6-2	204	05/01/74	4 Langston (OK)
82	Johnson, Malcolm	WR	6-5	215	08/27/77	2 Notre Dame
	Dearth, James	TE	6-3	269	01/22/76	1 Tarleton State
88	Becht, Anthony	TE	6-5	267	08/08/77	1 West Virginia
87	Coles, Laveranues	WR	5-11	190	12/29/77	1 Florida State
86	Hayes, Windrell	WR	5-11	198	12/14/76	1 Southern California
85	Kitchings, Desmond	WR	5-9	175	07/19/78	0 Furman
37	Moreland, Jake	TE	6-3	255	01/18/77	1 Western Michigan

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
95	Lyle, Rick	DE	6-5	290	02/26/71	6	Missouri
98	Burton, Shane	DE	6-6	305	01/18/74	5	Tennessee
72	Ferguson, Jason	NT	6-3	305	11/28/74	4	Georgia
97	Boose, Dorian	DE	6-5	292	01/29/74	3	Washington State
99	Ogbogu, Eric	DE	6-4	285	07/18/75	2	Maryland
91	Wiltz, Jason	DT	6-4	300	11/23/76	2	Nebraska
60	O'Sullivan, Dennis	DT	6-3	300	01/28/76	0	Tulane
92	Ellis, Shaun	DE	6-5	280	06/24/77	1	Tennessee
73	Anderson, Maurice	DT	6-3	280	01/19/75	0	Virginia

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Green, Victor	S	5-11	210	12/08/69	8 Akron
31	Glenn, Aaron	CB	6-9	185	07/16/72	7 Texas A&M
24	Mickens, Ray	CB	6-8	184	01/04/73	5 Texas A&M
42	Coleman, Marcus	CB	6-2	210	05/24/74	5 Texas Tech
30	Hayes, Chris	S	6-0	206	05/07/72	5 Washington State
24	Robinson, Damien	S	6-2	214	12/22/73	3 Iowa
47	Frost, Scott	S	6-3	219	01/04/75	3 Nebraska
27	Scott, Tony	CB	5-10	193	10/03/76	1 North Carolina State
38	Moreland, E.	CB	5-11	185	06/13/77	1 Georgie Southern
25	Ferguson, Nick	S	5-11	190	11/27/73	1 Georgia Tech

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
57	Lewis, Mo	LB	6-3	258	10/21/69	10	Georgia
55	Jones, Marvin	LB	6-2	250	06/28/72	7	Florida State
59	Colman, Doug	LB	6-2	250	06/04/73	5	Nebraska
58	Farrior, James	LB	6-1	244	01/06/75	4	Virginia
57	Darling, James	LB	6-0	250	12/29/74	4	Washington State
50	Syvud, J.J.	LB	6-3	255	05/10/77	1	Jamestown
94	Abraham, John	LB	6-3	250	05/06/78	1	South Carolina
53	Ledyard, Courtney	LB	6-2	250	03/09/77	1	Michigan State

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
7	Tupa, Tom	P	6-4	225	02/06/66	12	Ohio State
9	Hall, John	K	6-3	228	03/17/74	4	Wisconsin

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	16	Moss, Santana	WR	5-9	185	06/01/79	Miami (FL)
2	18	Jordan, LaMont	RB	5-9	230	11/11/78	Maryland
3	17	McKenzie, Kareem	T	6-6	327	05/24/79	Penn State
4	6	Henderson, Jamie	CB	6-1	200	01/01/79	Georgia
7	6	Reed, James	DT	5-11	279	02/03/77	Iowa State
7	17	Peko, Siitupe	T	6-4	300	09/19/78	Michigan State

*All times Eastern

LEFT: STEVE BEYER; RIGHT: ACTIVE IMAGES, INC.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
WEEK 2	9/16	at Oakland	4:15
WEEK 3	9/23	at New England	4:05
WEEK 4	10/1	SAN FRANCISCO	9:00
WEEK 5	10/7	at Buffalo	4:05
WEEK 6	10/14	MIAMI	4:15
WEEK 7	10/21	ST. LOUIS	1:00
WEEK 8	10/28	at Carolina	1:00
WEEK 9	11/4	at New Orleans	8:30
WEEK 10	11/11	KANSAS CITY	1:00
WEEK 11	11/18	at Miami	1:00
WEEK 12	11/25	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 13	12/2	NEW ENGLAND	1:00
WEEK 14	12/9	at Pittsburgh	4:15
WEEK 15	12/16	CINCINNATI	1:00
WEEK 16	12/23	at Indianapolis	8:30
WEEK 17	12/30	BUFFALO	1:00



It's Drew against the world for Patriots in team's Foxboro swan song.

If you believe all those baseball-style, long-term contracts awarded by NFL teams lately, **Drew Bledsoe** will be the New England Patriots' quarterback until he's past the age of 40, to the tune of \$103 million. Even if the relationship lasts half that long, the Pats did the smart thing by signing Bledsoe when he still had a year remaining on his existing contract. This team, which may be the neediest in the NFL, has little else.

Their new, privately financed \$325 million stadium will be ready for the 2002 season, but if coach Bill Belichick can't get more out of the Pats than he did a year ago, they might as well be playing atop a parking garage in downtown Foxboro.

Blue light specials

The Pats signed a bunch of free agents from the NFL five-and-dime store, but the only one who figures to make an impact is **Mike Compton**, who was Detroit's starting center last season. His arrival may allow **Damien Woody**, who suffers from a lack of zeal, to be moved to guard. Most of the other free agents are long shots who played relatively little for their former teams. **Larry Izzo** deserves an asterisk in this category. The ex-Miami linebacker went to the Pro Bowl as the AFC's special teams ace. In fairness to the present administration, past contracts that overpaid inconsistent or underperforming Patriots are what put the stranglehold on the team's purse. Even Bledsoe's contract is far beyond his production.

Looking for Mr. Goodback

What New England desperately needs most, considering Bledsoe's lack of mobility and the shortage of skilled blockers, is a running game that might keep the enemy honest. Bledsoe was sacked 45 times in 2000. The Pats don't have a bona fide feature back. **Kevin Faulk** and **J.R. Redmond** are glorified third-down backs. Faulk, who offers the least in the toughest situations, was the leading ground gainer a year ago with a token 570 yards.

The needs don't stop with the backs. **Compton**, **Woody** and **Adrian Klemm**, who battled back from an injury-plagued rookie season, offer the best hope for a revival. Klemm, who ended up at left guard in 2000, may move to left tackle with **Woody** taking his position. **Joe Panos**, signed after two injury-plagued seasons in Buffalo, is the front-runner at right guard. **Greg Robinson-Randall**, also plagued by injuries as a rookie, is the right tackle. Two rookies, **Matt Light** and **Kenyatta Jones**, may figure prominently. The Pats are still attempting to replace tight end **Ben Coates** more than a year after he left. **Rod Rutledge** keeps proving he isn't the answer. With the line a sometime thing, efficient blocking by Rutledge (who could lose his job to second-year man **Jermaine Wiggins**) and fullback **Tony Carter** is essential, although free agent **Marc Edwards** could take Carter's job on the basis of his pass-receiving skills.

In case nothing works to keep Bledsoe in one piece, **Damon Huard**, rejected by Miami, was signed as his backup. Huard brings some mobility and an understanding of the offense, which has eluded **Michael Bishop**, now in his second year.

Troy Brown isn't very big, and he's been around for eight seasons, but he was the best the Patriots had in 2000, voted their MVP by his teammates. The veteran wide receiver had 83 catches and averaged 12.9 yards on 39 punts returns, both career highs.

Terry Glenn had another good year, 79 receptions and six touchdowns, yet he's never been the superstar receiver his talent suggested he would be. Also added were **Bert Emanuel**, whose best days were long ago in Atlanta, and **David Patten**, who caught 38 passes for a 13.4-yard average in Cleveland.



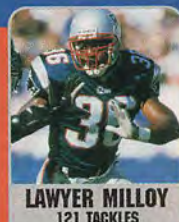
Only 29, **Drew Bledsoe** (top) became the Pats' all-time leading passer last year. Corner **Ty Law** has started 79 of 87 career games in New England.

Romeo woos defense

Romeo Crennell, the new defensive coordinator, will have at least three new starters. **Richard Seymour**, a big-play tackle the Pats drafted in the first round, will move

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	285.7 22	TOTAL DEFENSE	334.6 20
RUSHING	86.9 26	AGAINST RUSH	114.4 21
PASSING	198.8 19	AGAINST PASS	220.1 21
SCORING	276 25	PTS. ALLOWED	338 17
PUNT RETURNS	12.5 7	INTERCEPTIONS	10 27T
KICK RETURNS	20.9 24T	SACKS	29 24
RED ZONE TD %	43.4 24	TURNOVER DIFF.	-2 18



LAWYER MILLOY
121 TACKLES



The Patriot rushing attack will be left up to two undersized backs, Kevin Faulk (left) and J.R. Redmond.

into one of the slots vacated by Chad Eaton and Henry Thomas.

With Chris Slade released after a two-season slide, there will be a free-for-all at the strongside linebacker position. **Mike Vrabel**, who had his moments in Pittsburgh, is the most likely winner.

Belichick's coaching style, which Crennell knows well after serving two hitch-hikes with his new boss under Bill Parcells, is to feature the system (two-gap defense) over the talent, which means he likes to use role

players in the line. Signed as a free agent was veteran end **Anthony Pleasant**. Holdover **Greg Spires** is a pass-rush specialist who comes off the edge with a lot of speed. The one constant should be end **Willie McGinest**, who had a subpar season but may benefit from playing next to Seymour. Last season Belichick received better play from left end **Bobby Hamilton**, one of his old Jets.

The linebacking is full of question marks. Middle man **Ted Johnson**, at his best

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 16-21	Tampa Bay
09/11	L 19-20	at New York Jets
09/17	L 13-21	Minnesota
09/24	L 3-10	at Miami
10/01	W 28-19	at Denver
10/08	W 24-16	Indianapolis
10/15	L 17-34	New York Jets
10/22	L 23-30	at Indianapolis
11/05	L 13-16 OT	Buffalo
11/12	L 11-19	at Cleveland
11/19	W 16-13	Cincinnati
11/23	L 9-34	at Detroit
12/04	W 30-24	Kansas City
12/10	L 17-24	at Chicago
12/17	W 13-10 OT	at Buffalo
12/24	L 24-27	Miami

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Faulk	164	570	3.5	18	4
Redmond	125	406	3.2	20	1
Bledsoe	47	158	3.4	16	2
Carter	37	90	2.4	9	2
Pass	18	58	3.2	11	0
Brown	6	46	7.7	35	0
Glenn	4	39	9.8	35	0
Harris	3	14	4.7	7	0
Shaw	9	12	1.3	5	0
Team	424	1390	3.3	35	9
Opponents	495	1831	3.7	32	12

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Brown	83	944	11.4	44t	4
Glenn	79	963	12.2	39t	6
Faulk	51	465	9.1	52t	1
Bjornson	20	152	7.6	19	2
Redmond	20	126	6.3	20	2
Wiggins	16	203	12.7	59	1
Rutledge	15	103	6.9	16	1
Simmons	14	231	16.5	46	1
Carter	9	73	8.1	21	0
Calloway	5	95	19.0	28	0
Jackson	5	44	8.8	13	0
Floyd	1	21	21.0	21	0
Pass	4	17	4.2	15	0
Davis	2	12	6.0	9	0
Shaw	2	11	5.5	8	0
Harris	2	1	0.5	2	0
Floyd	1	21	21.0	21	0
Team	328	3461	10.6	59	18
Opponents	321	3694	11.5	81t	23

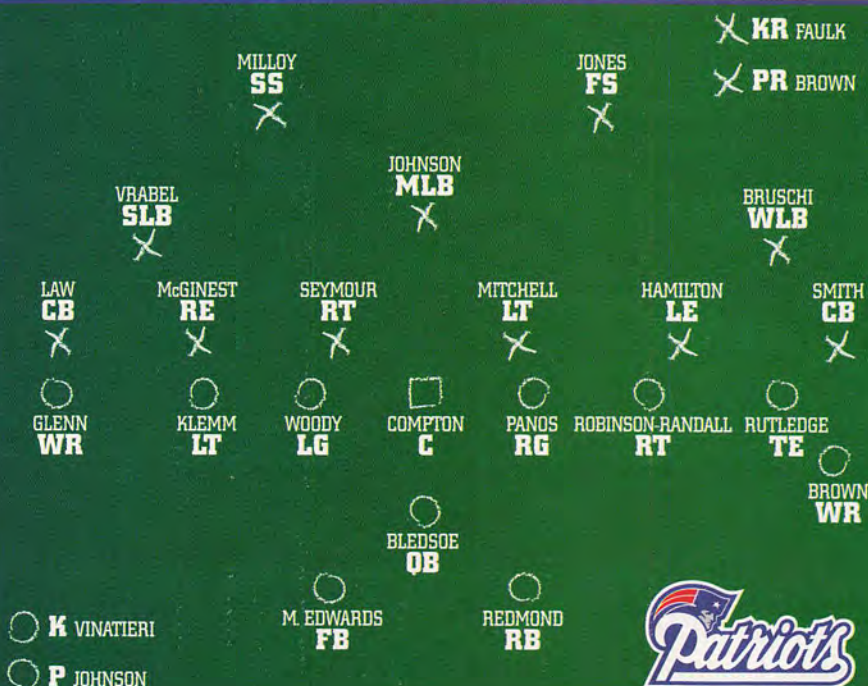
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Bledsoe	531	312	3291	17	13
Bishop	9	3	80	1	1
Friesz	21	11	66	0	1
Johnson	1	1	18	0	0
Brady	3	1	6	0	0
Team	565	328	3461	18	15
Opponents	544	321	3694	23	10

SACKS

McGinest 6.0, Spires 6.0, Thomas 4.5, Slade 4.0, Eaton 2.5, Serwanga 2.0, Hamilton 1.5, Bruschi 1.0, Harris 1.0

Team 29.0, Opponents 48.0

PROJECTED STARTERS

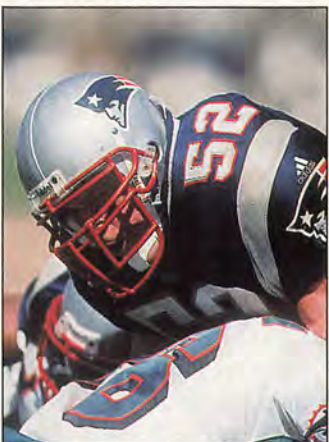


one of the fiercest defenders in the NFL, is returning from another injury. **Andy Katzenmoyer** was also hurt last year, but he's never come close to resembling "the next Butkus" so many scouts predicted when he came out of Ohio State. **Tedy Bruschi** is a small overachiever on the weakside.

Last season the secondary, expected to be a strength, was a disappointment. Cornerback **Ty Law** signed a big contract, then went into cruise control, ending with an embarrassing suspension over a post-game frolic in Canada. **Tebucky Jones** continued to look like a first-round bust, even after being switched to free safety from corner. The other corner spot has a "vacancy" sign hanging on it. The lone bright spot was strong safety, where **Lawyer Milloy** led the team with 121 tackles, far more than any Patriot linebacker. Rookie **Brock Williams** or well-traveled free agent **Terrance Shaw** may eventually push right corner **Otis Smith**.

The star of the special teams is kicker **Adam Vinatieri**, who joined Hall-of-Famer Jan Stenerud and Jason Elam of the Broncos as the only players in NFL history to score 100 points in each of his first five seasons. His kicks accounted for two of New England's five victories. **Lee Johnson**, entering his 17th season, had a career-high 31 punts fall within the enemy 20-yard line, including four in a Patriot victory at Buffalo during adverse weather conditions late in December. Brown is one of the game's most dangerous punt returners and Faulk is an effective kick returner. ■

Ted Johnson (left) and free-agent pickup Larry Izzo are two wild cards at linebacker for the Pats.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	at Cincinnati	1:00
WEEK 2	9/16	at Carolina	1:00
WEEK 3	9/23	N.Y. JETS	4:05
WEEK 4	9/30	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
WEEK 5	10/7	at Miami	1:00
WEEK 6	10/14	SAN DIEGO	1:00
WEEK 7	10/21	at Indianapolis	1:00
WEEK 8	10/28	at Denver	4:15
WEEK 9	11/4	at Atlanta	1:00
WEEK 10	11/11	BUFFALO	1:00
WEEK 11	11/18	ST. LOUIS	8:30
WEEK 12	11/25	NEW ORLEANS	4:05
WEEK 13	12/2	at N.Y. Jets	1:00
WEEK 14	12/9	CLEVELAND	1:00
WEEK 15	12/16	at Buffalo	1:00
WEEK 16	12/22	MIAMI	12:30
WEEK 17	12/30	OPEN DATE	

*All times Eastern

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Bill Belichick, head coach

Ivan Fears, wide receivers; **Eric Mangini**, defensive assistant/quality control; **Dick Rehbein**, quarterbacks; **Rob Ryan**, linebackers coach; **Dante Scarnecchia**, assistant head coach/offensive line; **Charlie Weiss**, offensive coordinator/wide receivers; **Romeo Crennell**, defensive coordinator; **Jeff Davidson**, offensive line assistant; **Pepper Johnson**, linebackers; **Randy Melvin**, defensive line; **Markus Paul**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Brad Seely**, special teams; **Mike Woelck**, strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Bledsoe, Drew	QB 6-5	240	02/14/72	8	Washington State
	Huard, Damon	QB 6-3	217	07/09/73	3	Washington
7	Bishop, Michael	QB 6-2	215	05/15/76	1	Kansas State
12	Brady, Tom	QB 6-4	210	08/03/77	1	Michigan
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Compton, Mike	G 6-6	298	09/18/70	8	West Virginia
	Panos, Joe	G 6-3	300	01/24/71	6	Wisconsin
72	Isaia, Sale	G 6-5	320	06/13/72	2	UCLA
63	Scott, Lance	C 6-3	300	02/15/72	3	Utah
76	Williams, Grant	T 6-7	325	05/10/74	5	Louisiana Tech
63	Andruzzi, Joe	G 6-3	315	08/23/75	3	Southern Connecticut State
65	Woody, Damien	C 6-3	315	11/03/77	2	Boston College
67	Ruegamer, Grey	C 6-5	310	06/01/76	1	Arizona State
70	Klemm, Adrian	T 6-3	310	05/21/77	1	Hawaii
77	Robinson-Randall, G. T.	G 6-5	315	06/23/78	1	Michigan State
61	Davis, Adam	G 6-4	300	01/11/77	0	Oklahoma State
66	Paxton, Lonnie	C 6-2	260	03/13/78	1	Sacramento State
62	Rawlings, Josh	T 6-3	305	04/11/77	0	Minnesota
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
30	Carter, Tony	RB 6-0	235	08/23/72	7	Minnesota
47	Bowie, Larry	RB 6-0	249	03/21/73	4	Georgia
44	Edwards, Marc	RB 6-0	240	11/17/74	4	Notre Dame
33	Faulk, Kevin	RB 5-8	200	06/15/76	2	LSU
46	Paulk, Jeff	RB 6-0	240	04/26/76	2	Arizona State
21	Redmond, J.R.	RB 5-11	210	09/28/77	1	Arizona State
35	Pass, Patrick	RB 5-10	215	12/31/77	1	Georgia
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Brown, Troy	WR 5-10	190	07/02/71	8	Marshall
87	Emanuel, Bert	WR 5-10	185	10/26/70	7	Rice
88	Glenn, Terry	WR 5-11	195	07/23/74	5	Ohio State
	Patten, David	WR 5-10	193	08/19/74	4	Western Carolina
81	Simmons, Tony	WR 6-1	210	12/08/74	3	Wisconsin
83	Rutledge, Rod	TE 6-5	270	08/12/75	3	Alabama
85	Morey, Sean	WR 5-11	190	02/26/76	1	Brown
85	Wiggins, Jermaine	TE 6-2	255	01/18/75	1	Georgia
84	Davis, Shockmain	WR 6-0	205	08/20/77	1	Angelo State
	Looker, Dane	WR 6-0	193	05/05/76	0	Washington
46	Eitzmann, Chris	TE 6-5	255	04/01/77	1	Harvard
82	Jackson, Curtis	WR 5-10	190	09/22/73	1	Texas
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Pleasant, Anthony	DE 6-5	280	01/27/68	11	Tennessee State
55	McGinest, Willie	DE 6-5	270	12/11/71	7	Southern California
71	Osborne, Chuck	DT 6-2	290	11/02/73	3	Arizona
91	Hamilton, Bobby	DE 6-5	280	01/07/71	5	Southern Mississippi
98	Mitchell, Brandon	DT 6-3	285	06/19/75	4	Texas A&M
94	Spire, Greg	DE 6-1	265	08/12/74	3	Florida State
92	Nugent, David	DE 6-4	300	10/27/77	1	Purdue
97	Grimes, Reggie	DE 6-4	300	11/07/76	1	Alabama
60	Johnson, Garrett	DT 6-3	295	12/31/75	1	Illinois
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
45	Smith, Otis	CB 5-11	195	10/22/65	10	Missouri
24	Law, Ty	CB 5-11	200	02/10/74	7	Michigan
22	Shaw, Terrance	CB 5-11	190	11/11/73	6	Stephen F. Austin
26	Stevens, Matt	S 6-0	206	06/15/73	5	Appalachian State
36	Milloy, Lawyer	S 6-0	210	11/14/73	5	Washington
34	Jones, Tebucky	S 6-2	220	10/06/74	3	Syracuse
31	Serwanga, Kato	CB 6-0	200	07/23/76	2	California
41	George, Tony	S 5-11	205	08/10/75	2	Florida
23	Harris, Antwan	CB 6-9	190	05/29/77	1	Virginia
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
50	Homborg, Rob	LB 6-3	240	05/06/71	7	Penn State
52	Johnson, Ted	LB 6-4	255	12/04/72	6	Colorado
54	Bruschi, Tedy	LB 6-1	245	06/09/73	5	Arizona
53	Izzo, Larry	LB 5-10	228	09/26/74	4	Rice
56	Vrabel, Mike	LB 6-4	250	08/14/75	4	Ohio State
59	Katzenmoyer, Andy	LB 6-3	255	12/02/77	2	Ohio State
93	Dalton, Antico	LB 6-1	240	12/31/75	2	Hampton
58	Chatham, Matt	LB 6-4	240	06/28/77	1	South Dakota
96	Tuitele, Maugaula	LB 6-0	260	05/26/78	1	Colorado State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Johnson, Lee	P 6-2	200	11/27/61	16	Brigham Young
4	Vinatieri, Adam	K 6-0	200	12/28/72	5	South Dakota State
6	Costello, Brad	P 6-1	230	12/12/74	2	Boston University

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	6	Seymour, Richard	DT	6-6	299	10/06/79	Georgia
2	17	Light, Matt	T	6-4	311	06/23/78	Purdue
3	24	Williams, Brock	CB	5-9	188	08/11/79	Notre Dame
4	1	Jones, Kenyatta	T	6-3	310	01/18/79	South Florida
4	24	Holloway, Jabari	TE	6-2	255	12/18/78	Notre Dame
5	32	Akbar, Hakim	S	6-0	210	08/11/80	Washington
6	17	Love, Arther	TE	6-3	236	09/18/77	South Carolina State
6	37	Myers, Leonard	CB	5-10	186	12/18/78	Miami (FL)
7	16	Pochman, Owen	K	5-11	177	08/02/77	Brigham Young
7	39	Turner, T.J.	LB	6-2	273	10/01/78	Michigan State



AFC CENTRAL

Fearsome Ravens defense prepares to suffocate division rivals once again.

By Larry Felser, *Buffalo News*

Never in the annals of the NFL has a defense strangled opposing offenses as thoroughly as the Baltimore Ravens strangled Denver, Tennessee, Oakland and then the New York Giants last postseason. Never in the same annals has a Super Bowl champion dumped its No. 1 and No. 2 quarterbacks weeks after the celebration parade.

Baltimore Ravens

The fact is Baltimore now is a better team than the one that toyed with the Giants last January. The coming of Elvis Grbac to play quarterback and balance the offense is just one of several moves made to strengthen this powerhouse.

Tennessee Titans

It wasn't that long ago that the byword in the NFL was "the Titans go as Eddie George goes." George is still one of the elite power runners in the league, but Baltimore controlled him twice last season, the second time in the playoffs. That was the main reason the Titans failed to return to the Super Bowl. The same defense stands in Tennessee's path again if its attack remains one-dimensional.

The Titans did the proper things in the offseason to maintain their own tough defense. They lost defensive end Kenny Holmes to free agency but then traded the 29th pick of the draft for the Rams' Kevin Carter, who led the league in sacks two seasons ago.

Pittsburgh Steelers

A team must play strong defense if it is to have a say in the AFC Central and the Steelers proved they have it. After an 0-3 start last year, they allowed just 31 points in the next six games and won five of them.

Without a better passing offense, however, Pittsburgh will remain a streaky curiosity instead of a contender.

Jacksonville Jaguars

First the Jaguars were cursed by a plague of injuries and now they are depleted by the salary cap. Their visions of a Super Bowl may have passed. They still have some glamorous weapons, but it's what is missing in the offensive line and the defense that may bog them down against strong opposition.

Cleveland Browns

Conventional wisdom used to be that coaches of expansion teams were given plenty of time to develop their collections of kids and complete strangers. No longer. Chris Palmer was fired after two years and now Butch Davis returns to the NFL from college football to try his luck.


The best news for Browns fans is that a decent defensive line appears to be taking shape. Last year's No. 1 pick, end Courtney Brown, is joined by this year's No. 1, tackle Gerard Warren, as well as free agent Mark Smith of Arizona. Free-agent linebackers Dwayne Rudd of Minnesota and Brant Boyer of Jacksonville should help.

Cincinnati Bengals

You have to hand it to the Bengals this time. They tried. A parade of potential free agents paraded through Cincinnati, said some nice things about the organization and the city—and then signed elsewhere.

Akili Smith's status as the once and future quarterback was muddled when the front office signed Jon Kitna to a \$10 million contract. The superb running back, Corey Dillon, reluctantly wears the transition-player tag, which is becoming an old story at Cincy.



TOP PLAYERS	
OFFENSE: Corey Dillon, RB Cincinnati Bengals	
DEFENSE: Ray Lewis, LB Baltimore Ravens	
NEWCOMER: Elvis Grbac, QB Baltimore Ravens	



With all-world defense and a velvet touch from Elvis, the Ravens can't help but get even better.

The Ravens shut out four opponents last season. They allowed no more than one touchdown in 11 games. Their yield for the season was 165 points. In the playoff victory over Tennessee, two of their three touchdowns came on a 90-yard return of a blocked field goal and a 50-yard interception return by **Ray Lewis**, their great middle linebacker.

In four postseason games they allowed one offensive touchdown.

Mad scientist adds elements

Memorable. Historic. But nothing you can count on to happen in two consecutive seasons. So Brian Billick, at heart an offensive coach, made the big moves as soon as the cheering stopped. He dumped Trent Dilfer, the winning quarterback in the Super Bowl. He dumped Tony Banks, his one-time starter and later Dilfer's backup. Then he signed **Elvis Grbac** from Kansas City as a free agent.

Grbac is the sort of quarterback associated with Billick when he was offensive coordinator for the high-scoring Minnesota Vikings. With the Chiefs last season, Grbac threw for 1,089 yards more than Dilfer and Banks combined; eight more touchdown passes; five fewer interceptions.

The Ravens also added their No. 1 draft choice, tight end **Todd Heap**, with whom Billick, the mad scientist, can combine **Shannon Sharpe** and tinker with all sorts of double-tight end sets. Welcomed back is one of last year's first-rounders, wide receiver **Travis Taylor**, whose rookie season was halted early by injury.

The Ravens were a handful in 2000. In 2001, they look like a wheelbarrow full.

Heaven's Front Seven

Free agency cost them a couple of helpful defenders, but their overwhelming strength is in the starting front seven, and that bunch stays intact. The team went to the financial wall to return outside linebacker **Jamie Sharper**, a

superb player hidden in the shadow of Lewis, the all-universe middle man.

Surprisingly, the Ravens don't have a massive sack record. They dropped opposing quarterbacks just 35 times last year. Marvin Lewis, the defensive coordinator, plays a more disciplined brand of defense and his first priority is stopping the run. The Ravens stop it dead in its tracks. They allowed 59 first downs rushing, 39 under the NFL average. The average rushing gain against Baltimore was 2.7 yards, about a yard and a half under the league average. Keep adding 2.7 yards and they don't translate to first downs. Just five rushing touchdowns were allowed.

As good as the linebacking unit is, all three have football personalities of their own. Lewis is an updated version of Hall-of-Famer Dick Butkus, with a lot more speed. **Peter Boulware** is the attacker, especially against the pass. He had seven sacks. Sharper is the more cerebral type but still a hard hitter. They have one thing in common: great speed.

Tony Siragusa and, to a lesser extent, **Sam Adams**, the 300-plus pounders in the middle of the line, made their reputations in the postseason as the roadblocks to the run as well as protectors of the middle. They allow Lewis to roam all over making plays. Veteran left end **Rob Burnett** led the team in sacks with 10.5. **Michael McCrary** had 6.5 sacks but is capable of much more.

The strength in the defensive backfield is at the cornerbacks. **Duane Starks** and **Chris McAlister** are able to lock down just about any receiver. Starks had six interceptions to lead the team. The outlook at safety is not as rosy. **Rod Woodson**, entering his 15th season



New Ravens quarterback Elvis Grbac (bottom), whose favorite target in Kansas City was All-Pro tight end Tony Gonzalez, will not see much of a drop-off at the position in Baltimore throwing to Shannon Sharpe.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	313.4	16
RUSHING	137.4	5
PASSING	175.9	22
SCORING	333	14
PUNT RETURNS	15.8	1
KICK RETURNS	22.3	12
RED ZONE TD %	40.0	26

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	247.9	2
AGAINST RUSH	60.6	1
AGAINST PASS	187.3	8
PTS. ALLOWED	165	1
INTERCEPTIONS	23	5
SACKS	35	21
TURNOVER DIFF.	+23	1



MICHAEL MCCRARY
6.5 SACKS

at age 36, is the free safety. Rookie **Gary Baxter** may replace the departed Kim Herring at strong safety.

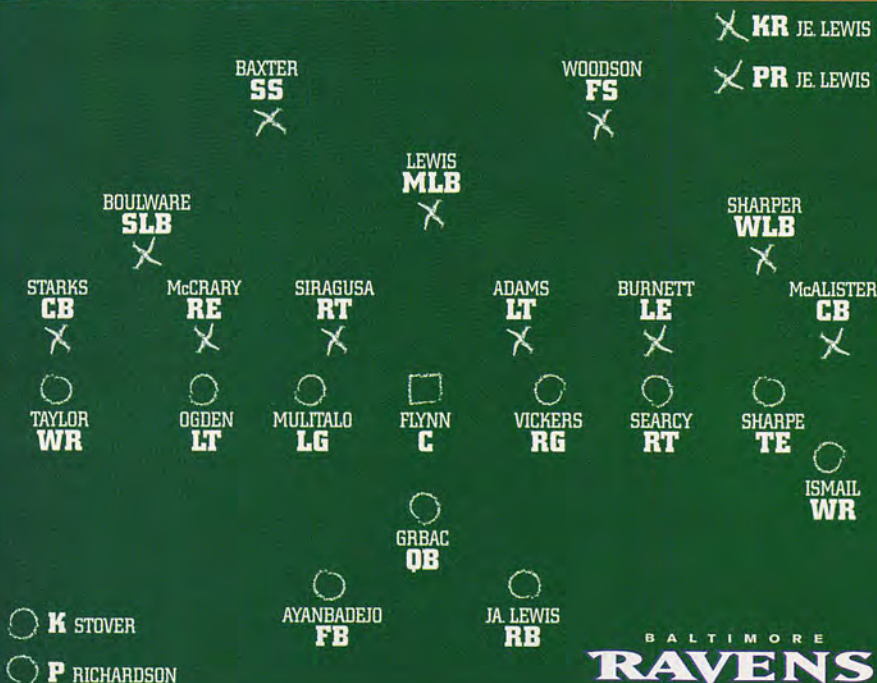
There is another incentive for the defense. Coordinator Lewis just missed getting a head-coaching job last season. Anything near a repeat performance could clinch one for him next January.

Qadry Ismail had the most receptions among Raven wide receivers, 49, but Billick is looking for more than that with Grbac and Taylor aboard. Sharpe led the team with 67 catches, but throwing to the tight end would be nothing new for Grbac. His main man in Kansas City was All-Pro Tony Gonzalez.

Backup receiver Jermaine Lewis (left) was the AFC's top punt returner last season, while rookie running back Jamal Lewis got better as the season progressed, with two 100-yard performances in postseason.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 12, Lost 4

DATE	W	SCORE	
09/03	W	16-0	at Pittsburgh
09/10	W	39-36	Jacksonville
09/17	L	6-19	at Miami
09/24	W	37-0	Cincinnati
10/01	W	12-0	at Cleveland
10/08	W	15-10	at Jacksonville
10/15	L	3-10	at Washington
10/22	L	6-14	Tennessee
10/29	L	6-9	Pittsburgh
11/05	W	27-7	at Cincinnati
11/12	W	24-23	at Tennessee
11/19	W	27-0	Dallas
11/26	W	44-7	Cleveland
12/10	W	24-3	San Diego
12/17	W	13-7	at Arizona
12/24	W	34-20	New York Jets

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jam. Lewis	309	1364	4.4	45	6
Holmes	137	588	4.3	21	2
Dilfer	20	75	3.8	19	0
Banks	19	57	3.0	10	0
Jer. Lewis	3	38	12.7	23	0
Ayanbadejo	15	37	2.5	8	1
Johnson	2	21	10.5	19	0
Taylor	2	11	5.5	12	0
Stokley	1	6	6.0	6	0
Gash	2	2	1.0	1	0
Redman	1	0	0	0	0
Team	511	2199	4.3	45	9
Opponents	361	970	2.7	33t	5

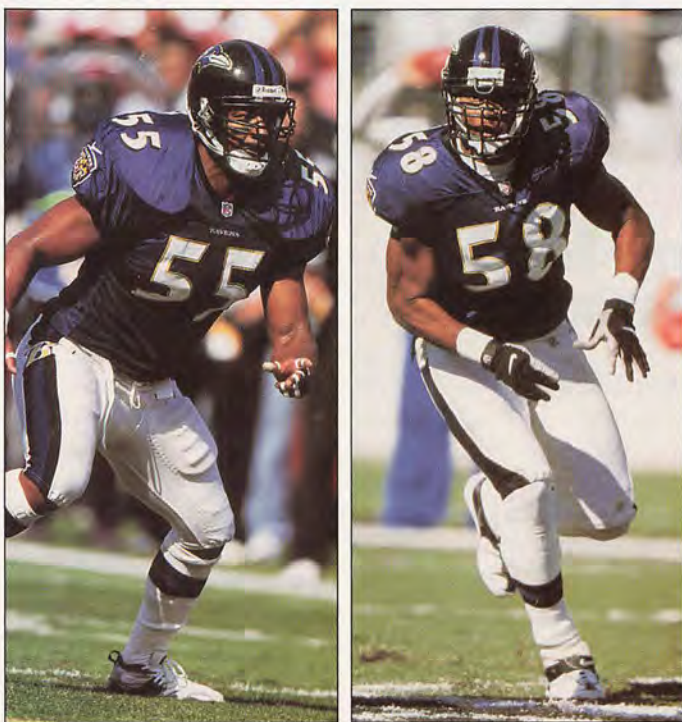
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Sharpe	67	810	12.1	59t	5
Ismail	49	655	13.4	53t	5
Holmes	32	221	6.9	27	0
Taylor	28	276	9.9	40	3
Jam. Lewis	27	296	11.0	45	0
Ayanbadejo	23	168	7.3	26	1
Jer. Lewis	19	161	8.5	26	1
Johnson	12	156	13.0	46t	2
Stokley	11	184	16.7	32	2
Coates	9	84	9.3	28	0
Davis	3	62	20.7	28	0
Gash	6	30	5.0	9	1
Team	287	3102	10.8	59t	20
Opponents	295	3175	10.8	67	11

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Banks	274	150	1578	8	8
Dilfer	226	134	1502	12	11
Redman	3	2	19	0	0
Jer. Lewis	1	1	3	0	0
Team	504	287	3102	20	19
Opponents	528	295	3175	11	23

SACKS

Burnett 10.5, Boulware 7.0, McCrary 6.5, Brown 3.0, R. Lewis 3.0, Adams 2.0, Trapp 2.0, Herring 1.0

Team 35.0, Opponent 43.0



Jamie Sharper (left) and Peter Boulware are the two overlooked men in a linebacking corps that is fast becoming one of the best in NFL history.

Searcy signs on up front

Jamal Lewis was a dependable "pounder" as the rookie feature back, gaining 1,364 yards. He lifted his play in the postseason, gaining more than 100 yards in two of the four games. The worry is the lack of depth behind him. He should be helped by the signing of **Leon Searcy**, who moves in at right tackle opposite one of the premier left tackles in football, **Jonathon Ogden**. The inside is a little spongy. **Edwin Mulitalo** is the left guard, **Kipp Vickers** the right guard and **Mike Flynn** is at center replacing departed Jeff Mitchell. If rookie center **Casey Rabach** can start, Quinn will keep his right guard job.

Jermaine Lewis led the AFC in punt returns with a 16.1-yard average and returned two for touchdowns. He had an 84-yard kickoff return for a Super Bowl touchdown. The kicking game is first-rate. **Matt Stover** connected on 35 of 39 field goal attempts, while **Kyle Richardson** had 35 punts downed inside the enemy 20.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	CHICAGO	1:00
WEEK 2	9/17	MINNESOTA	9:00
WEEK 3	9/23	at Cincinnati	1:00
WEEK 4	9/30	at Denver	4:15
WEEK 5	10/7	TENNESSEE	1:00
WEEK 6	10/14	at Green Bay	1:00
WEEK 7	10/21	at Cleveland	1:00
WEEK 8	10/28	JACKSONVILLE	1:00
WEEK 9	11/4	at Pittsburgh	1:00
WEEK 10	11/12	at Tennessee	9:00
WEEK 11	11/18	Cleveland	1:00
WEEK 12	11/25	at Jacksonville	1:00
WEEK 13	12/2	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
WEEK 14	12/9	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 15	12/16	PITTSBURGH	8:30
WEEK 16	12/23	CINCINNATI	1:00
WEEK 17	12/29	at Tampa Bay	9:00

*All times Eastern

BALTIMORE RAVENS

Brian Billick, head coach

Matt Cavanaugh, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks; **Jim Colletto**, offensive line; **Jack Del Rio**, linebackers; **Jeff Friday**, strength and conditioning; **Wade Harman**, tight ends/assistant offensive line; **Donnie Henderson**, assistant defensive backs; **Milt Jackson**, wide receivers; **Marvin Lewis**, defensive coordinator; **Chip Morton**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Russ Purnell**, special teams; **Rex Ryan**, defensive line; **Steve Shafer**, defensive backs/assistant head coach; **Matt Simon**, running backs; **Mike Smith**, defensive assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
18	Grbac, Elvis	QB	6-5	240	8/13/70	7 Michigan
7	Redman, Chris	QB	6-3	223	7/7/77	1 Louisville
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
70	Swayne, Harry	T	6-5	300	2/2/65	14 Rutgers
	Searcy, Leon	T	6-4	320	12/21/69	8 Miami (FL)
77	Vickers, Kipp	G	6-2	300	8/27/69	5 Miami (FL)
75	Ogden, Jonathan	T	6-8	340	7/31/74	5 UCLA
62	Flynn, Mike	G	6-3	300	6/15/74	3 Maine
72	Williams, Sammy	T	6-5	318	12/14/74	2 Oklahoma
64	Mulitalo, Edwin	G	6-3	340	9/1/74	2 Arizona
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Homer, Derek	RB	5-11	200	11/29/77	0 Kentucky
30	Ayanbadejo, O.	RB	6-2	235	3/5/75	3 San Diego State
31	Lewis, Jamal	RB	5-11	231	8/28/79	1 Tennessee
44	Brookins, Jason	RB	6-0	235	1/5/76	1 Lane College
46	Kemeck, Aaron	RB	6-2	225	4/11/79	0 Austin College
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
82	Sharpe, Shannon	TE	6-2	240	6/26/68	11 Savannah State
88	Wainwright, Frank	TE	6-2	255	10/10/67	9 Northern Colorado
87	Ismail, Qadry	WR	6-0	200	11/8/70	8 Syracuse
84	Lewis, Jermaine	WR	5-7	180	10/16/74	5 Maryland
11	Nash, Marcus	WR	6-3	195	2/1/76	2 Tennessee
83	Johnson, Pat	WR	5-10	180	8/10/76	3 Oregon
80	Stokley, Brandon	WR	5-11	197	6/23/76	2 Southwestern Louisiana
89	Taylor, Travis	WR	6-1	200	3/30/79	1 Florida
85	Jones, John	TE	6-4	255	4/4/75	1 Indiana (PA)
16	Thompson, G.	WR	6-2	208	9/12/76	0 New Mexico
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Siragusa, Tony	DT	6-3	340	5/14/67	11 Pittsburgh
90	Burnett, Rob	DE	6-4	270	8/27/67	11 Syracuse
79	Webster, Larry	DT	6-5	305	1/18/69	8 Maryland
99	McCrary, Michael	DE	6-4	260	7/7/70	8 Wake Forest
95	Adams, Sam	DT	6-3	330	6/13/73	7 Texas A&M
91	Dalton, Lionel	DT	6-1	325	2/21/75	3 Eastern Michigan
94	Gregg, Kelly	DT	6-0	285	11/1/76	1 Oklahoma
96	Thomas, Adalius	DE	6-2	270	8/18/77	1 Southern Mississippi
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Woodson, Rod	S	6-0	205	03/10/65	14 Purdue
45	Harris, Corey	S	5-11	200	10/25/69	9 Vanderbilt
38	Trapp, James	CB	6-0	190	12/28/69	8 Clemson
22	Starks, Duane	CB	5-10	170	5/23/74	3 Miami (FL)
25	Love, Clarence	CB	5-10	181	6/16/76	2 Toledo
21	McAlister, Chris	CB	6-1	206	6/14/77	2 Arizona
43	Poindexter, Anthony	S	6-0	210	7/28/76	1 Virginia
42	Mitchell, Anthony	S	6-1	211	12/13/74	1 Tuskegee
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Lewis, Ray	LB	6-1	245	5/15/75	5 Miami (FL)
58	Boulware, Peter	LB	6-4	255	12/18/74	4 Florida State
55	Sharper, Jamie	LB	6-3	240	11/23/74	4 Virginia
50	Jackson, Brad	LB	6-0	230	1/11/75	2 Cincinnati
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
3	Stover, Matt	K	5-11	178	1/27/68	10 Louisiana Tech
5	Richardson, Kyle	P	6-2	210	3/2/73	4 Arkansas State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	31	Heap, Todd	TE	6-4	252		Arizona State
2	31	Baxter, Gary	CB	6-1	204	11/24/78	Baylor
3	30	Rabach, Casey	C	6-4	290	9/24/78	Wisconsin
4	31	Hartwell, Edgerton	LB	6-0	250	5/27/78	Western Illinois
5	30	Barnes, Chris	RB	6-0	210	7/31/78	New Mexico State
6	31	Maese, Joe	C	6-0	235	12/2/78	New Mexico
7	31	Missouri, Dwayne	DE	6-3	265	12/23/78	Northwestern



AFC CENTRAL

McNair must step up his game if Titans are to make a serious run at Baltimore.

It was not a relaxing offseason for the Titans. Quarterback **Steve McNair**, from whom they desperately need a breakout year, had an infection in his throwing shoulder for months. If coach Jeff Fisher isn't nervous, he should be. McNair needs to improve, quickly, if the Titans hope to overcome Baltimore, the only team that found the key to beating Tennessee in Nashville's Adelphia Coliseum.

This is McNair's seventh NFL season, his fifth as the Titans' full-time quarterback. For all his natural skills, his advance has been glacial. When the Ravens kept **Eddie George** under control in their playoff battle last season, something extra was needed from

McNair and he didn't have it. In five postseason appearances, he has thrown only one touchdown pass. His statistics in 2000 weren't much different from his numbers in previous seasons. In fact, his 13 interceptions were his most since his first year as a starter.

McNair Force

The front office didn't provide McNair with much in the way of reinforcements. Free-agent money spent on the likes of flops like Carl Pickens and Yancey Thigpen has resulted in salary-cap strictures. **Kevin Dyson** and **Derrick Mason** are the only wide receivers of any (good) reputation. Dyson suffered a serious knee injury early last season and his recovery was so gradual that the plan is to use him sparingly for the first month or so. Mason, one of the league's top return men, had his own breakthrough with 63 catches last year. Behind them, only **Chris Sanders**, who has up years and down years, offers much help.

The passing attack seems destined to be more of a hunt-and-peck operation than it was last year. Using a double-tight end formation and attempting to ram George down the throat of the opposition may be the only alternative. Tight end **Frank Wycheck**, McNair's most frequent target, led the team with 70 catches. Look for **Erron Kinney**, the second tight end, to take the field often.

George carried the ball more (403 times) and gained more yardage (1,509 rushing yards) than in any of his five pro seasons. Once thought indestructible, that rep took a little ding when he underwent serious toe surgery in the offseason. He could use a little

Fourth-year receiver Derrick Mason set a single-season NFL record for combined yardage with 2,690 yards, earning his first Pro Bowl trip.

help, but **Dan Alexander**, a sixth-round pick from Nebraska, was the only running back taken in the draft. He could end up as the starting fullback when the Titans use one.

The tackles are the key to George's success in the running game. **Brad Hopkins** has joined the elite among NFL left tackles. **Fred Miller** should have smoother sailing in his second year as the right tackle after coming



Dependable tight end Frank Wycheck extended his streak of games with a catch to 69 last season.

over from the Rams. The only question about 18-year veteran and future Hall-of-Famer **Bruce Matthews** is whether he plays left guard or center. If it's guard, **Kevin Long** stays at center. If it's center, **Zach Piller** moves up at left guard.

Pass rush adds Carter

The major change on defense is caused by the free-agent defection of right end Kenny Holmes. The Titans then traded with St. Louis for **Kevin Carter**, once on track to become a longtime pass-rushing star. Snarled in a nasty contract dispute, Carter became part of the problem last season in St. Louis as the Rams'



NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	334.4 14	TOTAL DEFENSE	238.3 1
RUSHING	130.3 7	AGAINST RUSH	86.9 3
PASSING	204.1 16	AGAINST PASS	151.4 1
SCORING	346	PTS. ALLOWED	191 2
PUNT RETURNS	12.7 6	INTERCEPTIONS	17 13T
KICK RETURNS	26.1 2	SACKS	55 2T
RED ZONE TD %	46.4 22	TURNOVER DIFF.	0 16T



JEVON KEARSE
84 TACKLES 11.5 SACKS

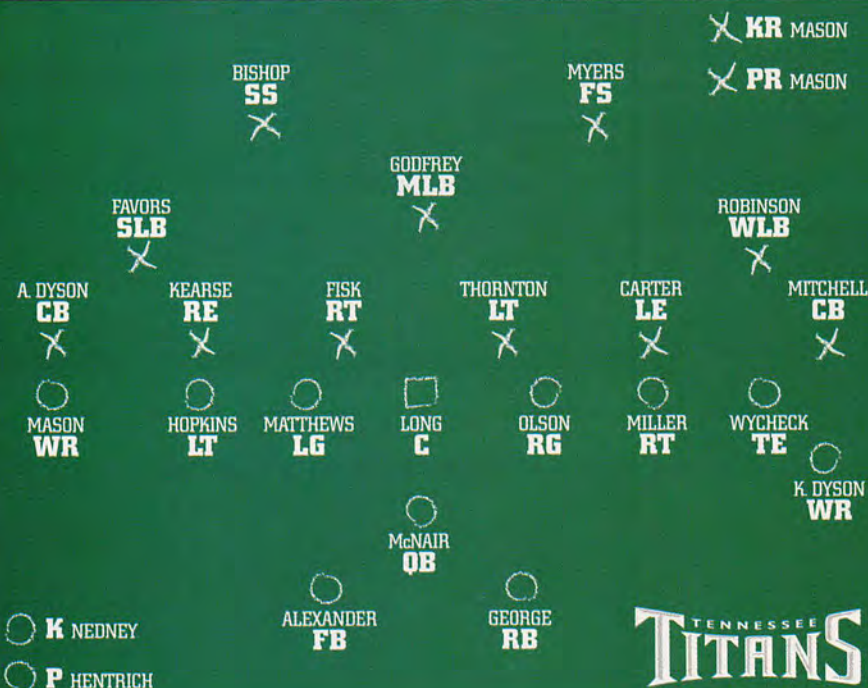
defense went belly-up. Fisher hopes Carter can regain his once-formidable skills. To accommodate him at left end, **Jevon Kearse** will switch to right end. That means Kearse, whose sophomore season was nothing like his glitzy rookie debut, must deal with perennial All-Pro tackles Jonathan Ogden of

Baltimore and Tony Boselli of Jacksonville each twice a season. The incumbent tackles are **John Thornton** and **Jason Fisk**, with a surprise addition: **Josh Evans**, suspended all of last season by the league for violating its substance-abuse policy. Evans was a dominant force in the postseason games of '99.

Many scouts believe with talents like quarterback Steve McNair (left) and Pro Bowl running back Eddie George, the Titans should be able produce more than their No. 14 rank in total offense would indicate.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 13, Lost 3

DATE	SCORE
09/03	L 13-16 at Buffalo
09/10	W 17-14 Kansas City
09/24	W 23-20 at Pittsburgh
10/1	W 28-14 New York Giants
10/8	W 23-14 at Cincinnati
10/16	W 27-13 Jacksonville
10/22	W 14-6 at Baltimore
10/30	W 27-21 at Washington
11/05	W 9-7 Pittsburgh
11/12	L 23-24 Baltimore
11/19	W 24-10 Cleveland
11/26	L 13-16 at Jacksonville
12/03	W 15-13 at Philadelphia
12/10	W 35-3 Cincinnati
12/17	W 24-0 at Cleveland
12/25	W 31-0 Dallas

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
George	403	1509	3.7	35t	14
McNair	72	403	5.6	25	0
Thomas	61	175	2.9	20	0
Mason	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	546	2085	3.8	35t	14
Opponents	387	1390	3.6	80t	7

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Wycheck	70	636	9.1	26	4
Mason	63	895	14.2	34	5
George	50	453	9.1	24	2
Sanders	33	536	16.2	54	0
Kinney	19	197	10.4	19	1
Thigpen	15	289	19.3	56t	2
Pickens	10	242	24.2	67	0
Neal	9	31	3.4	8	2
Thomas	8	35	4.4	9t	1
Dyson	6	104	17.3	30t	1
Roan	3	12	4.0	6	0
Team	286	3430	12.0	67	18
Opponents	242	2761	11.4	48	10

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
McNair	396	248	2847	13	15
O'Donnell	64	36	530	2	3
Wycheck	2	2	53	1	0
Team	462	286	3430	18	16
Opponents	466	242	2761	10	17

SACKS
Kearse 11.5, Holmes 8.0, Favors 5.5, Robinson 4.0, Salave'a 4.0, Thornton 4.0, Embray 3.5, Godfrey 3.0, Bishop 2.5, Smith 2.5, Fisk 2.0, Ford 2.0, Rolle 1.5, Killens 1.0
Team 55.0, Opponents 27.0

There were two subtractions in the secondary, with free safety Marcus Robertson being a salary-cap casualty and Denard Walker a free-agent loss. The top player in the new group is right



Veteran offensive tackle Brad Hopkins started for the eighth straight year and earned his first trip to the Pro Bowl in 2000.

corner **Samari Rolle**, who has evolved into one of the finest defensive players in the league. **Blaine Bishop** is still a force at strong safety. **Bobby Myers** replaces Robertson, and rookie **Andre Dyson** has the best chance of filling Walker's vacancy at left corner. The line-backing is consistently good with **Randall Godfrey** in the middle, flanked by **Eddie Robinson** and **Greg Favors**.

Williams shuffles off to Buffalo

There is major defensive change off the field, with Gregg Williams, Fisher's highly regarded coordinator, leaving to become head coach at Buffalo. He took secondary coach Jerry Gray with him to become the Bills' defensive coordinator. Jim Schwartz is the Titans' new coordinator. Fisher hired ex-Kansas City head coach Gunther Cunningham as an assistant to provide an experienced sounding board for Schwartz.

There will be change on special teams, too. The Titans

bid adieu to kicker Al Del Greco and signed the Panthers' **Joe Nedney** to replace him. With Mason now a starting receiver, some of his return duties may go to someone else. **Craig Hentrich** dropped 33 punts inside the enemy 20-yard line.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	MIAMI	8:30
2	9/16	CINCINNATI	1:00
3	9/23	at Jacksonville	1:00
4	9/30	OPEN DATE	
5	10/7	at Baltimore	1:00
6	10/14	TAMPA BAY	1:00
7	10/21	at Detroit	1:00
8	10/29	at Pittsburgh	9:00
9	11/4	JACKSONVILLE	12:00
10	11/12	BALTIMORE	9:00
11	11/18	at Cincinnati	1:00
12	11/25	PITTSBURGH	1:00
13	12/2	at Cleveland	1:00
14	12/9	at Minnesota	1:00
15	12/16	GREEN BAY	4:15
16	12/22	at Oakland	9:00
17	12/30	CLEVELAND	1:00

*All times Eastern

TENNESSEE TITANS

Jeff Fisher, head coach

Craig Johnson, offensive assistant/quality control; **Everett Withers**, defensive backs; **Mike Heimerdinger**, offensive coordinator; **George Henshaw**, assistant head coach/offense; **Alan Lowry**, special teams; **Mike Munchak**, offensive line; **Jim Schwartz**, defensive coordinator; **Sherman Smith**, running backs; **Steve Walters**, wide receivers; **Jim Washburn**, defensive line; **Steve Watterson**, strength and conditioning; **Gunther Cunningham**, linebackers/third-down package coach

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
14	O'Donnell, Neil	QB	6-3	228	07/03/1966	10 Maryland
9	McNair, Steve	QB	6-2	225	02/14/1973	6 Alcorn State
12	Volek, Billy	QB	6-2	210	04/28/1976	0 Fresno State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
74	Matthews, Bruce	G	6-5	305	08/08/1961	18 Southern California
72	Hopkins, Brad	T	6-3	305	09/05/1970	8 Illinois
76	Mathews, Jason	T	6-5	304	02/09/1971	7 Texas A&M
71	Miller, Fred	T	6-7	315	02/06/1973	5 Baylor
66	DiNapoli, Gennaro	G	6-3	295	05/25/1975	1 Virginia Tech
75	Olson, Benji	G	6-3	315	06/05/1975	3 Washington
60	Long, Kevin	C	6-5	295	05/02/1975	3 Florida State
69	Piller, Zach	G	6-5	330	05/02/1976	2 Florida
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
27	George, Eddie	RB	6-3	240	09/24/1973	5 Ohio State
20	Green, Mike	RB	6-0	249	09/02/1976	1 Houston
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
89	Wycheck, Frank	TE	6-3	250	10/14/1971	8 Maryland
81	Sanders, Chris	WR	6-1	188	05/08/1972	6 Ohio State
85	Mason, Derrick	WR	5-10	188	01/17/1974	4 Michigan State
87	Dyson, Kevin	WR	6-1	201	06/23/1975	3 Utah
88	Kinney, Erron	TE	6-5	272	07/28/1977	1 Florida
83	Leach, Mike	TE	6-4	238	10/18/1976	1 William & Mary
17	Coleman, Chris	WR	6-0	202	05/08/1977	1 North Carolina State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Ford, Henry	DT	6-3	295	10/30/1971	7 Arkansas
93	Carter, Kevin	DE	6-5	280	09/21/1973	6 Florida
97	Fisk, Jason	DT	6-3	295	09/04/1972	6 Stanford
91	Evans, Josh	DT	6-2	288	09/06/1972	5 UAB
95	Salave'a, Joe	DT	6-3	290	03/23/1975	3 Arizona
90	Kearse, Jevon	DE	6-4	265	09/03/1976	2 Florida
78	Thornton, John	DT	6-2	295	10/02/1976	2 West Virginia
	Frisch, Byron	DE	6-5	267	12/17/1976	0 Brigham Young
98	Smith, Robaire	DE	6-4	271	11/15/1977	1 Michigan State
96	Embray, Keith	DE	6-4	265	11/29/1974	1 Utah
77	Walker, Rod	DT	6-3	330	08/09/1973	0 Troy State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Bishop, Blaine	S	5-9	203	07/24/1970	8 Ball State
21	Rolle, Samari	CB	6-0	175	08/10/1976	3 Florida State
37	Sidney, Dainon	CB	6-0	188	05/30/1975	3 UAB
35	Phenix, Perry	S	5-11	210	11/14/1974	3 Southern Mississippi
29	Mitchell, Donald	CB	5-9	185	12/14/1976	1 Southern Methodist
32	Myers, Bobby	S	6-1	189	11/10/1976	1 Wisconsin
28	Morris, Aric	S	5-10	208	07/22/1977	1 Michigan State
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Robinson, Eddie	LB	6-1	243	04/13/1970	9 Alabama State
56	Godfrey, Randall	LB	6-2	245	04/06/1973	5 Georgia
51	Favors, Gregory	LB	6-1	244	09/30/1974	3 Mississippi State
53	Bulluck, Keith	LB	6-3	232	04/04/1977	1 Syracuse
59	Sirmon, Peter	LB	6-2	246	02/18/1977	1 Oregon
57	Chamberlin, Frank	LB	6-1	250	01/02/1978	1 Boston College
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
15	Hentrich, Craig	P	6-3	205	05/18/1971	7 Notre Dame
6	Nedney, Joe	K	6-5	220	03/22/1973	5 San Jose State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
2	29	Dyson, Andre	CB	5-9	175	5/25/79	Utah
3	28	Meier, Shad	TE	6-4	255	6/7/78	Kansas State
4	29	McCareins, Justin	WR	6-1	209	12/1/78	Northern Illinois
5	28	Berlin, Eddie	WR	5-11	190	1/14/78	Northern Iowa
6	29	Alexander, Dan	RB	5-11	257	3/17/78	Nebraska
6	36	Haayer, Adam	T	6-6	298	2/22/77	Minnesota
7	32	Adams, Keith	LB	5-10	220	11/22/79	Clemson



Steelers need to upgrade Kordell, passing game to move into contention.

The Steelers are just good enough to miss the playoffs. They have a defense that ranks in the top quarter of the NFL, a running game that's occasionally dominant, but a passing offense that holds down the rest of the team like an anchor.

Running the ball successfully and playing defense can translate into success in certain divisions, but not in the AFC Central. In order to move up in the pecking order, the Steelers must hurdle Baltimore and Tennessee. It can't be done with a one-dimensional offense. The Ravens annihilate the run and the Titans are almost as efficient.

'Bus' fare increases

It all means that Pittsburgh's hopes rest mainly with quarterback **Kordell Stewart** and, to a lesser extent, running back **Jerome Bettis**. Bettis had the sort of season that earned him the nickname "The Bus," with 1,341 yards on 355 carries. Out of that came a new contract. Unless Bettis, who enters his ninth pro season, loses some of his zeal now that his future is secure, he will remain the team's foremost weapon. Stewart is another story.

A year ago, journeyman **Kent Graham** was brought in as the Steelers' shadow quarterback because there was such a crisis in confidence about Stewart's development and stability. Graham actually did win the starting job, then played himself out of it. Since he was the only remaining option, Stewart was shoved back into the huddle and played satisfactorily. It was significant that when the Steelers won three of their last four games, two of them, against Oakland and Washington, were at home. The late, unlamented Three Rivers Stadium had become a "House of Hostility" to Kordell, which was part of his problem.

The Trouble with Plaxico and Troy

If Stewart is going to advance further, something must be done to cause an attitude adjustment in his two principal receivers, **Plaxico Burress** and **Troy Edwards**. They

were Pittsburgh's first-round draft choices last year and in 1999, respectively. The plan was to develop them as Stewart's collaborators in a vertical passing game. Neither has developed nor contributed much yet.

Consequently, coach Bill Cowher promoted Mike Mularkey to offensive coordinator, hired Kenny Jackson from Penn State as receivers coach and Tom Clements as the team's first quarterback coach since 1973, Terry Bradshaw's formative period. Jackson tackled the wide receiver problem head-on, identifying Burress as a player who always got along on his great natural ability but was stymied as an NFL rookie matched against players with his own level of skills. He also described Edwards' difficulty in adjusting to an offense not built around him, as it was in college at Louisiana Tech.

Why Stewart didn't have a quarterback coach years ago is a mystery. It was clear from the start that he needed someone to hold his hand, especially as his position shifted from "Slash" to "quarterback" and back again. The new coaches should have time to smooth out the bumps in their charges. The Steelers don't play a team with a winning record until the eighth game of the season, when they visit Tampa Bay. They don't start running the Baltimore-Tennessee gauntlet until October 29 when they entertain the Titans.

If Edwards and Burress don't develop, journeymen **Hines Ward** and **Courtney Hawkins** will keep their jobs. If Stewart doesn't continue to mature, the Steelers are sunk.

The big change in the offensive line is the departure of Dermontti Dawson, the team's great center, and the coming of **Jeff Hartings**. Hartings, signed from Detroit, where he was one of the NFL's better guards, has been switched to

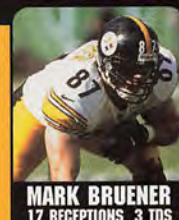


While inconsistency has plagued Pittsburgh quarterback Kordell Stewart (top) throughout his career, RB Jerome Bettis has been the Steeler offense's one constant in recent years.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	297.9 18
RUSHING	140.5 4
PASSING	157.4 29
SCORING	321 17T
PUNT RETURNS	11.9 8
KICK RETURNS	21.1 20
RED ZONE TD %	46.9 20T

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	294.6 7
AGAINST RUSH	105.8 12
AGAINST PASS	188.8 9
PTS. ALLOWED	255 6
INTERCEPTIONS	17 13T
SACKS	39 6
TURNOVER DIFF.	+14 6



MARK BRUENER
17 RECEPTIONS 3 TDS



Outside linebackers Joey Porter (left) and Jason Gildon were responsible for 24 of the Steelers' 39 sacks last season.

center with the expectation that he will be the linear successor to not only Dawson but Hall-of-Famer Mike Webster, the only Steelers to hold the position since 1974. There's strength at the tackles with Wayne Gandy on the left side and young **Marvel Smith** on the right. The guards are **Rich Tylski** and **Alan Faneca**. Both tight end **Mark Bruener** and fullback **Dan Kreider** are integral parts of the running game because of their blocking.

The Steelers do a decent job against the run, but in order to stop Eddie George of Tennessee, Jamal Lewis of Baltimore, Corey Dillon of Cincinnati and Fred Taylor of Jacksonville, more than "decent" is needed. That's why defensive tackle **Casey Hampton**, the squatty Texas star, was drafted in the first round. He has a reputation for jamming the middle of the line of scrimmage. Second-year man **Chris Combs**

PROJECTED STARTERS



Steelers

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 0-16	Baltimore
09/17	L 20-23	at Cleveland
09/24	L 20-23	Tennessee
10/01	W 24-13	at Jacksonville
10/08	W 20-3	at New York Jets
10/15	W 15-0	Cincinnati
10/22	W 22-0	Cleveland
10/29	W 9-6	at Baltimore
11/05	L 7-9	at Tennessee
11/12	L 23-26 OT	Philadelphia
11/19	L 24-34	Jacksonville
11/26	W 48-28	at Cincinnati
12/03	W 21-20	Oakland
12/10	L 10-30	at New York Giants
12/16	W 24-3	Washington
12/24	W 34-21	at San Diego

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bettis	355	1341	3.83	30	8
Stewart	78	436	5.6	45t	7
Huntley	46	215	4.7	30t	3
Fuamatu-Ma'afala	21	149	7.1	23	1
Ward	4	53	13.2	23	0
Kreider	2	24	12.0	22	0
Zereoue	6	14	2.3	11	0
Graham	8	7	0.9	7	0
Witman	3	5	1.7	2	0
Edwards	3	4	1.3	15	0
Miller	1	0	0	0	0
Team	527	2248	4.3	45t	9
Opponents	425	1693	4.0	46	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ward	48	672	14.0	77t	4
Shaw	40	672	16.8	45t	4
Burress	22	273	12.4	39	0
Hawkins	19	238	12.5	33	1
Edwards	18	215	11.9	27	0
Bruener	17	192	11.3	30t	3
Bettis	13	97	7.5	25	0
Fuamatu-Ma'afala	11	107	9.7	25	0
Huntley	10	91	9.1	19	0
Kreider	5	42	8.4	14	0
Witman	5	33	6.6	11	0
Cushing	4	17	4.2	5	0
Geason	3	66	22.0	36	0
Blackwell	2	23	11.5	14	0
Team	217	2738	12.6	77t	12
Opponents	280	3249	11.6	79	13

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Stewart	289	151	1860	11	8
Graham	148	66	878	1	1
Bettis	2	0	0	0	1
Team	439	217	2738	12	10
Opponents	521	280	3249	13	17

SACKS

Gildon 13.5, Porter 10.5, A. Smith 4.0, Townsend 3.5, Alexander 1.5, Battles 1.0, Flowers 1.0, Holmes 1.0, Von Oelhoffen 1.0, Vrabel 1.0

Team 39.0, Opponents 43.0



Underachieving young receivers Troy Edwards (left) and Plaxico Burress hold most of the keys to Pittsburgh being able to improve its NFL rank of 29 in passing offense.

should force a change from Aaron Smith at left end. Chris Sullivan or converted nose tackle Kimo von Oelhoffen will play the right side.

Levon likes his money, leaves

The salary cap could no longer accommodate Levon Kirkland, and that causes a huge vacancy at inside linebacker and in the dressing room, where the big guy was a leader. Mike Jones, best known as the Ram who made the Super Bowl-saving tackle for St. Louis two seasons ago, is his successor. Earl Holmes will play alongside him. The pass rush, still relying on zone blitzes, comes heavily from the outside linebackers, Jason Gildon and Joey Porter, who accounted for 24 of the Steelers' 39 sacks.

Big seasons are needed from starting corners Dewayne Washington and Chad Scott, as well as their top two backups (Jason Simmons and Deshea Townsend), since all four are slated to become free agents after this season. Washington and Scott each had five interceptions. Lee Flowers is the veteran strong safety, while Brent Alexander and Scott Shields fight it out for the free safety start.

Kris Brown loses some effectiveness when he attempts field goals longer than 40 yards. Josh Miller led the NFL with 34 punts downed inside the 20. Hank Poteat finished among the league's top 10 punt returners, but more yardage is needed on the kickoff returns. ■

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Bill Cowher, head coach

Mike Archer, linebackers; Kenny Jackson, receivers; Mike Mularkey, offensive coordinator; Jay Hayes, special teams; Dick Hoak, running backs; Tim Lewis, defensive coordinator; John Mitchell, defensive line; Ken Whisenhunt, tight ends; Willy Robinson, defensive backs; Russ Grimm, offensive line; Tom Clements, quarterbacks; Mike Miller, administrative assistant; Lou Spanos, administrative assistant; Chet Fuhrman, conditioning coach; Anthony Griggs, player development

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Graham, Kent	QB	6-5	245	11/1/68	8 Ohio State
10	Stewart, Kordell	QB	6-1	211	10/16/72	6 Colorado
17	Martin, Tee	QB	6-1	221	7/25/78	0 Tennessee

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
62	Duffy, Roger	G	6-3	299	7/16/67	11 Penn State
71	Tharpe, Larry	T	6-4	305	11/19/70	6 Tennessee State
61	Myslinski, Tom	G	6-3	293	12/7/68	9 Tennessee
72	Gandy, Wayne	T	6-5	310	2/10/71	7 Auburn
64	Hartings, Jeff	G	6-3	295	9/7/72	5 Penn State
65	Tylski, Rich	G	6-5	308	2/27/71	5 Utah State
66	Faneca, Alan	G	6-4	315	12/7/76	3 LSU
60	Ross, Oliver	G	6-4	310	9/27/74	1 Iowa State
77	Smith, Marvel	T	6-5	320	8/6/78	1 Arizona State

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Bettis, Jerome	RB	5-11	250	2/16/72	8 Notre Dame
33	Huntley, Richard	RB	5-11	225	9/18/72	4 Winston-Salem
38	Witman, Jon	RB	6-1	240	6/1/72	5 Penn State
45	Fuamatu-Ma'afala, C.	RB	5-11	252	3/4/77	3 Utah
21	Zereoue, Amos	RB	5-8	202	10/8/76	2 West Virginia
35	Kreider, Dan	RB	5-11	242	3/11/77	1 New Hampshire

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
87	Bruener, Mark	TE	6-4	261	9/16/72	6 Washington
86	Ward, Hines	WR	6-1	197	3/8/76	3 Georgia
82	Shaw, Bobby	WR	6-1	186	4/23/75	2 California
83	Loud, Kamil	WR	6-0	190	6/25/76	2 Cal Poly SLO
81	Edwards, Troy	WR	5-9	192	4/7/77	2 Louisiana Tech
84	Tuman, Jerame	TE	6-3	250	3/24/76	2 Michigan
48	Cushing, Matt	TE	6-3	258	7/2/75	2 Illinois
80	Burress, Plaxico	WR	6-6	229	8/12/77	1 Michigan State
85	Geason, Corey	TE	6-3	255	8/12/75	1 Tulane

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
67	von Oelhoffen, Kimo	NT	6-4	305	1/30/71	7 Boise State
74	Sullivan, Chris	DE	6-4	285	3/14/73	5 Boston College
91	Smith, Aaron	DE	6-5	281	4/9/76	2 Northern Colorado
96	Clancy, Kendrick	NT	6-1	280	9/17/78	1 Mississippi
73	Combs, Chris	DE	6-4	284	12/15/76	1 Duke

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
42	Bell, Myron	S	6-0	210	9/15/71	7 Michigan State
20	Washington, D.	CB	6-1	193	12/27/72	7 North Carolina State
27	Alexander, Brent	S	5-11	196	7/10/71	7 Tennessee State
41	Flowers, Lethon	S	6-1	211	1/14/73	6 Georgia Tech
32	Logan, Mike	S	6-0	211	9/15/74	4 West Virginia
30	Scott, Chad	CB	6-1	192	9/6/74	3 Maryland
26	Townsend, Deshea	CB	5-10	175	9/8/75	3 Alabama
23	Simmons, Jason	CB	5-8	186	3/30/76	3 Arizona State
47	Shields, Scott	S	6-4	228	3/29/76	2 Weber State
22	Poteat, Hank	CB	5-10	190	8/30/77	1 Pittsburgh
	Williams, Payton	CB	5-7	170	11/19/78	1 Fresno State
28	Battles, Ainsley	S	5-10	190	11/6/77	1 Vanderbilt
24	Codie, Nikia	S	6-2	208	1/20/76	1 Baylor

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Jones, Mike	LB	6-1	240	4/15/69	10 Missouri
90	Gildon, Jason	LB	6-3	255	7/31/72	7 Oklahoma State
50	Holmes, Earl	LB	6-2	250	4/28/73	5 Florida A&M
57	Fiala, John	LB	6-2	235	11/25/73	3 Washington
55	Porter, Joey	LB	6-2	240	3/22/77	2 Colorado State
54	Schneck, Mike	LB	6-1	242	8/4/77	2 Wisconsin
53	Haggans, Clark	LB	6-3	250	1/10/77	1 Colorado State
90	Thompson, Donnel	LB	5-11	234	2/17/78	1 Wisconsin

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Miller, Josh	P	6-3	219	7/14/70	5 Arizona
3	Brown, Kris	K	5-10	204	12/23/76	2 Nebraska

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	19	Hampton, Casey	DT	6-1	320	9/3/77	Texas
2	8	Bell, Kendrell	LB	6-1	238	7/17/80	Georgia
4	16	Nkwenti, Matthias	T	6-4	290	5/11/78	Temple
5	15	Okobi, Chukky	G	6-1	315	11/18/78	Purdue
6	18	Bailey, Rodney	DE	6-3	281	10/7/79	Ohio State
6	19	Knight, Roger	LB	6-0	236	10/11/78	Wisconsin
7	18	Taylor, Chris	WR	5-10	184	4/25/79	Texas A&M

*All times Eastern

2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Jacksonville	1:00
2	9/16	CLEVELAND	8:30
3	9/23	OPEN DATE	
4	9/30	at Buffalo	1:00
5	10/7	CINCINNATI	1:00
6	10/14	at Kansas City	1:00
7	10/21	at Tampa Bay	1:00
8	10/29	TENNESSEE	9:00
9	11/4	BALTIMORE	1:00
10	11/11	at Cleveland	1:00
11	11/18	JACKSONVILLE	4:05
12	11/25	at Tennessee	1:00
13	12/2	MINNESOTA	1:00
14	12/9	N.Y. JETS	1:00
15	12/16	at Baltimore	8:30
16	12/23	DETROIT	1:00
17	12/30	at Cincinnati	1:00



AFC CENTRAL

Salary-cap blues have Super Bowl dreams fading, but the Jaguars' big names remain.

The Jaguars still have some of the names that made them such a dangerous team when the NFL moved into the new millennium—**Mark Brunell**, **Tony Boselli**, **Jimmy Smith**, **Fred Taylor**, **Tony Brackens**. The problem is that they don't have enough of them any longer. Attrition and the salary cap changed the football landscape in Jacksonville.

Not that the Jaguars are a bad team. Despite the flood of injuries that may have ruined their last-ditch push for the Super Bowl, the Jags still split with Tennessee and Pittsburgh and their two losses to Super Bowl champion Baltimore were by a total of eight points. They just keep losing players, mostly because of cap constraints.

Bruised, battered Brunell

Brunell, who was re-signed to a \$30 million deal, and Taylor remain the heart of the offense. Part of the

shift in strategy to keep the quarterback in one piece was to work Taylor as hard as possible. Consequently, the sacks surrendered by the jerry-built offensive line were cut in half over the last half of the season. They needed to be reduced. As it turned out, the 54 sacks Brunell suffered were a personal high he could have done without.

Yet, despite the shoddy protection, the lefty tied his team record with 20 touchdown passes, compiled his largest yardage total in four seasons (3,640) and threw the ball 512 times, the most in five years. He remains the Jaguars' unquestioned offensive leader. Taylor's consistent excellence gives Jacksonville the best one-two punch in the league's most competitive division.

Healthy return of Smith key

If Smith does not feel the lingering effects of April abdominal surgery to repair scar tissue (which dates back to his Dallas days), Brunell will have as his principal target a man who averaged 90 catches over the last five seasons, including 91 last year. **Keenan McCardell**, his partner, caught 93 and each exceeded 1,200 yards. If Smith isn't ready, the Jaguars will cross their fingers over **R. Jay Soward**, whose lack of discipline and casual attitude resulted in much second-guessing about making him last year's top draftee. Tight end **Kyle Brady**, who caught 64 passes, now has a better rapport with Brunell.

The Achilles' heel is the offensive line. Everything is fine with the left side, where



Four-time Pro Bowl receiver Jimmy Smith has 207 receptions over the last two seasons.

Boselli is the NFL's best tackle and **Brad Meester**, who excelled as a rookie, made the switch from college center. The Jaguars need **John Wade** to make a major comeback at center after missing 14 games with a stress fracture in his foot. Problems on the right side might be solved if rookie **Maurice Williams** comes through at right tackle, allowing **Zach Wiegert** to move back to right guard, where he fits more comfortably.

Moeller wants more bite on 'D'

Gary Moeller, who spent most of last year as Detroit's head coach, is the new defensive coordinator. He made it clear that there will be less reliance on the zone-blitzing schemes utilized by his predecessor, Dom Capers, who left to take the head-coaching job with the expansion Houston Texans. His first task will be to unscramble the linebacking, where **Hardy Nickerson** and **Lonnie Marts** appear to have outlived their usefulness, and **Kevin Hardy**, a star not long ago, feuded with head coach Tom Coughlin to the point where it's only a matter of time before he goes. Second-year man **T.J. Slaughter**

Despite being sacked 54 times, athletic QB Mark Brunell still managed to throw 20 touchdown passes and rank sixth in the AFC in passer rating (84.0).

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	355.6 7	TOTAL DEFENSE	302.8 12
RUSHING	127.0 10	AGAINST RUSH	105.3 11
PASSING	228.6 9	AGAINST PASS	197.5 14
SCORING	367 8	PTS. ALLOWED	327 16
PUNT RETURNS	7.2 28	INTERCEPTIONS	12 24T
KICK RETURNS	21.3 19	SACKS	40 14T
RED ZONE TD %	47.4 19	TURNOVER DIFF.	+1 15



KEENAN MCCARDELL
94 RECEPTIONS 1,207 YARDS

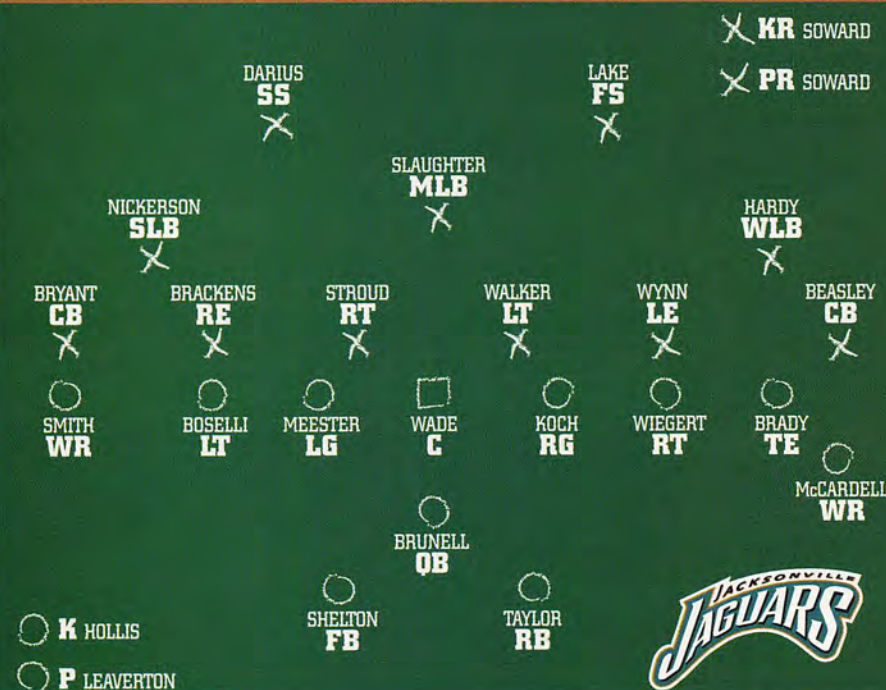


Running back Fred Taylor (top left), tackle Tony Boselli (top right) and tight end Kyle Brady were key cogs in helping the Jaguar offense convert 42.6 percent of its third downs last season, good for fourth in the AFC.

could inherit Nickerson's middle linebacker job, while rookie Eric Westmoreland might move up if Hardy goes.

The big change in the line involves top draftee **Marcus Stroud**, who should be able to plug a large portion of the middle. Right end Brackens, who always seems on the cusp of stardom, led the team with 7.5 sacks. **Gary Walker**, another run-plugger, is stationed at left tackle in Moeller's design to

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 27-7	at Cleveland
09/10	L 36-39	at Baltimore
09/17	W 13-0	Cincinnati
09/25	L 14-43	at Indianapolis
10/01	L 13-24	Pittsburgh
10/08	L 10-15	Baltimore
10/16	L 13-27	at Tennessee
10/22	L 16-35	Washington
10/29	W 23-17 OT	at Dallas
11/12	L 21-28	Seattle
11/19	W 34-24	at Pittsburgh
11/26	W 16-13	Tennessee
12/03	W 48-0	Cleveland
12/10	W 44-10	Arizona
12/17	L 14-17	at Cincinnati
12/23	L 25-28	at New York Giants

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Taylor	292	1399	4.8	71	12
Brunell	48	236	4.9	16	2
Mack	54	145	2.7	14	1
Johnson	28	112	4.0	19	1
Stith	20	55	2.8	12	1
Howard	21	52	2.5	9t	1
Soward	3	28	9.3	20	0
Williams	2	8	4.0	4	0
Shelton	2	3	1.5	2	0
Dukes	2	2	1.0	2	0
Team	481	2032	4.2	71	18
Opponents	436	1685	3.9	45t	14

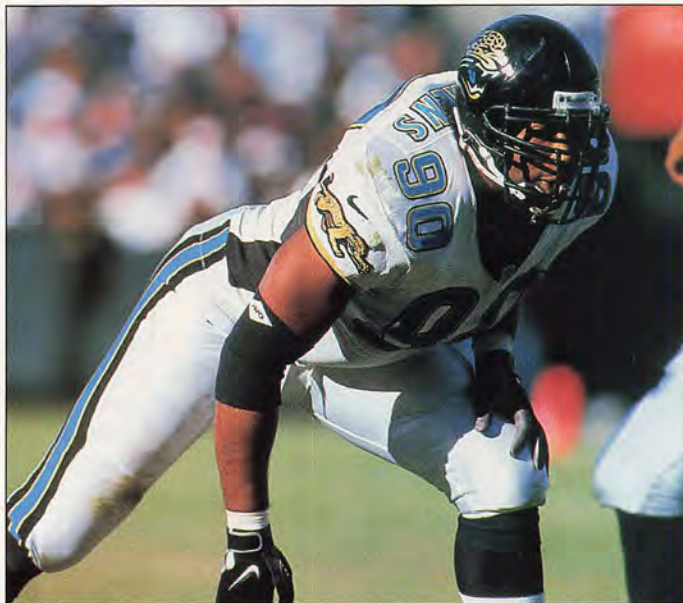
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
McCardell	94	1207	12.8	67t	5
Smith	91	1213	13.3	65t	8
Brady	64	729	11.4	36	3
Taylor	36	240	6.7	19	2
Soward	14	154	11.0	45	1
Whitted	13	137	10.5	37t	3
Johnson	12	153	12.8	48	0
Shelton	4	48	12.0	16	0
Howard	3	26	8.7	13	0
Barlow	1	28	28.0	28	0
Jones	1	12	12.0	12	0
Team	333	3947	11.9	67t	22
Opponents	258	3407	13.2	77t	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Brunell	512	311	3640	20	14
Martin	33	22	307	2	1
Team	545	333	3947	22	15
Opponents	458	258	3407	23	12

SACKS

Brackens 7.5, Smeenge 6.0, Spicer 6.0, Beasley 5.0, Walker 5.0, Boyer 3.5, Wynn 3.5, Hardy 3.0, Payne 2.0, Darius 1.0, Logan 1.0, Nickerson 1.0

Team 40.0, Opponents 54.0



contain enemy ground games. **Renaldo Wynn** is the left end.

The Jaguars may have to risk playing **Carnell Lake** at free safety, despite his 34 years and the fact that he spent last season on injured reserve. They need a traffic cop back there, considering only 12 passes were intercepted in 2000. **Donovin Darius'** play dipped at strong safety. Rookie **James Boyd** will play a lot. **Fernando Bryant** and **Aaron Beasley** are competent corners.

With punter **Bryan Barker** having defected, rookie **David Leaverton** should get his job. Kicker **Mike Hollis** missed only two of 24 field goal attempts. With **Reggie Barlow** gone, **Soward** has to kick it into gear as a return man.



Defensive end Tony Brackens (top) and linebacker Kevin Hardy hope to bounce back to their 1999 form, when both were selected for the Pro Bowl.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Tom Coughlin, head coach

John Bonamego, assistant special teams; **Gary Moeller**, defensive coordinator; **Pete Carmichael**, wide receivers; **Perry Fewell**, secondary; **Greg Finnegan**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Frank Gansz**, special teams; **Fred Hoaglin**, tight ends; **Jerald Ingram**, running backs; **Mike Maser**, offensive line; **Paul Haynes**, defensive quality control; **Garrick McGee**, offensive quality control; **Jerry Palmieri**, strength and conditioning; **John Pease**, assistant head coach; **Bob Petrino**, offensive coordinator; **Lucious Selmon**, inside linebackers; **Steve Szabo**, outside linebackers; **John McNulty**, wide receivers

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Brunell, Mark	QB	6-1	216	9/17/70	7 Washington
10	Martin, Jamie	QB	6-2	216	2/8/70	3 Weber State
12	Quinn, Jonathan	QB	6-6	240	2/27/75	3 Middle Tennessee State

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Boselli, Tony	T	6-7	320	4/17/72	6 Southern California
77	Wiegert, Zach	T	6-5	310	8/16/72	6 Nebraska
73	Smith, Jeff	C	6-3	324	5/25/73	5 Tennessee
66	Wade, John	C	6-5	300	1/25/75	3 Marshall
79	Nelson, Reggie	G	6-4	310	6/23/76	2 McNeese State
76	Ledford, Dwayne	T	6-3	295	11/2/76	1 East Carolina
63	Meester, Brad	G	6-3	302	3/23/77	1 Northern Iowa
69	Baniewicz, Mark	T	6-6	306	3/24/77	0 Syracuse
64	Koch, Aaron	G	6-3	298	2/1/78	1 Oregon State
67	Shepherd, Gannon	T	6-8	304	1/4/77	0 Duke

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Taylor, Fred	RB	6-1	230	1/27/76	3 Florida
34	Mack, Stacey	RB	6-1	234	6/26/75	2 Temple
33	Stith, Shyrone	RB	6-7	209	4/2/78	1 Virginia Tech

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
87	McCardell, Keenan	WR	6-1	189	1/6/70	9 UNLV
82	Smith, Jimmy	WR	6-1	208	2/9/69	7 Jackson State
80	Brady, Kyle	TE	6-6	276	1/14/72	6 Penn State
88	Jones, Damon	TE	6-5	270	9/18/74	4 Southern Illinois
86	Whitted, Alvis	WR	6-0	182	9/4/74	3 North Carolina State
83	Neufeld, Ryan	TE	6-4	240	11/22/75	2 UCLA
89	Smith, Emanuel	WR	6-1	210	2/3/76	1 Arkansas

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
75	Curry, Eric	DE	6-6	277	2/3/70	7 Alabama
96	Walker, Gary	DT	6-2	301	2/28/73	6 Auburn
90	Brackens, Tony	DE	6-4	270	12/26/74	5 Texas
97	Wynn, Renaldo	DE	6-3	292	9/3/74	4 Notre Dame
91	Payne, Seth	DE	6-4	290	2/12/75	4 Cornell
94	Smith, Larry	DT	6-5	282	12/4/74	2 Florida State
95	Spicer, Paul	DE	6-4	269	8/18/75	2 Saginaw Valley
92	Meier, Rob	DE	6-5	273	8/29/77	1 Washington State

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
37	Lake, Carnell	S	6-1	213	7/15/67	11 UCLA
21	Beasley, Aaron	CB	6-0	195	7/7/73	5 West Virginia
20	Darius, Donovin	S	6-1	220	8/12/75	3 Syracuse
29	Cooks, Kerry	S	5-11	202	3/28/74	1 Iowa
25	Bryant, Fernando	CB	5-10	180	3/26/77	2 Alabama
29	Craft, Jason	CB	5-10	182	2/13/76	2 Colorado State
41	Thomas, Kiwaukee	CB	5-11	182	6/19/77	1 Georgia Southern
45	Olson, Erik	S	6-1	212	1/4/77	1 Colorado State
24	Miller, Craig	S	5-11	199	10/4/77	1 Utah State
27	Criss, Shad	CB	5-10	185	1/11/76	1 Missouri

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
58	Marts, Lonnie	LB	6-2	254	11/10/68	10 Tulane
56	Nickerson, Hardy	LB	6-2	236	9/1/65	14 California
51	Hardy, Kevin	LB	6-4	250	7/24/73	5 Illinois
54	Pelshak, Troy	LB	6-2	242	3/6/77	2 North Carolina A&T
58	Tuipala, Joe	LB	6-0	240	9/13/76	0 San Diego State
53	Slaughter, T.J.	LB	6-0	239	2/20/77	1 Southern Mississippi
55	Clark, Danny	LB	6-2	244	5/9/77	1 Illinois

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Hollis, Mike	PK	5-7	179	5/22/72	6 Idaho
5	Tarle, Jim	K	6-0	221	12/27/72	1 Arkansas State
8	Langley, Aaron	P	6-0	191	5/31/78	1 Wyoming

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	13	Stroud, Marcus	DT	6-5	317	6/25/78	Georgia
2	12	Williams, Maurice	T	6-5	305	1/26/79	Michigan
3	11	Westmoreland, Eric	LB	5-11	235	3/11/77	Tennessee
3	32	Boyd, James	S	5-11	205	10/17/77	Penn State
5	11	Leaverton, David	P	6-3	210	4/1/78	Tennessee
6	7	Ward, Chad	G	6-4	320	1/12/77	Washington
7	13	Denman, Anthony	LB	6-1	236	10/30/79	Notre Dame
7	33	McCree, Marlon	S	5-11	193	3/31/77	Kentucky
7	35	Flowers, Richmond	WR	5-11	192	5/4/78	Chattanooga
7	41	Chevrier, Randy	DT	6-2	281		McGill College

*All times Eastern

2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	PITTSBURGH	1:00
2	9/16	at Chicago	4:15
3	9/23	TENNESSEE	1:00
4	9/30	CLEVELAND	4:15
5	10/7	at Seattle	4:05
6	10/14	OPEN DATE	
7	10/18	BUFFALO	8:30
8	10/28	at Baltimore	1:00
9	11/4	at Tennessee	12:00
10	11/11	CINCINNATI	1:00
11	11/18	at Pittsburgh	4:05
12	11/25	BALTIMORE	1:00
13	12/3	GREEN BAY	9:00
14	12/9	at Cincinnati	1:00
15	12/16	at Cleveland	1:00
16	12/23	at Minnesota	4:15
17	12/30	KANSAS CITY	1:00



Now that the 'old Browns' have a Super Bowl title, Cleveland fans and management are beginning to expect much bigger things.

There is franchise envy in Cleveland. Jubilation over a new team, replacing the "old Browns" who were shanghaied to Baltimore by Art Modell, plus a beautiful new stadium, were enough to carry the city's rabid football fans for two seasons. But now the expatriate Browns are the Super Bowl champion Ravens and Cleveland wants more.

The "old Browns" may have played in a dirty, creaky old stadium, where sitting in some areas was like watching a game through venetian blinds, but at least the football was first-rate and in most years of championship quality.

Last season the new guys scored the fewest points in the NFL while the defense finished last in the conference.

Back to basics with Butch

That's why Chris Palmer was fired after just two years as head coach, and Butch Davis, who restored winning football at the University of Miami without getting the school put on probation, is now in charge. Davis isn't new to the NFL. He was a Jimmy Johnson aide in Dallas. Defense is his game and he'll be starting over from the bottom.

Owner Al Lerner became impatient with everyone in the organization, including club President Carmen Policy and Dwight Clark, the vice president of football operations. It cost Lerner more than \$3 million to buy out Palmer. Davis' contract calls for \$15 million over five years. That's a lot of impatience.

Rudd, Warren aid 'D' reconstruction

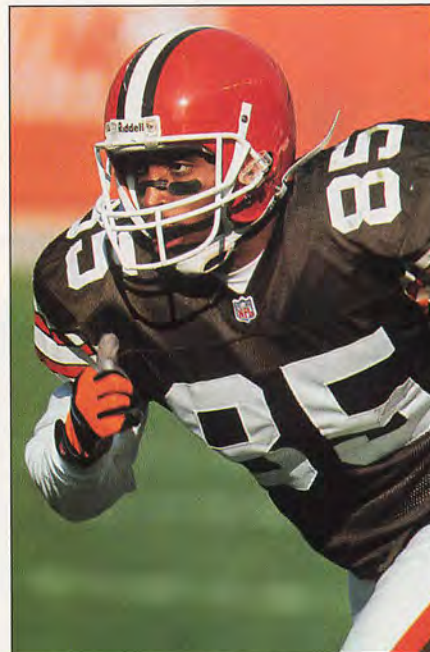
For the second draft in a row the Browns picked a defensive lineman, **Gerard Warren** of Florida, as their top man. The 325-pound strongman will line up next to **Courtney Brown**, the top pick of the entire draft a year ago. The selection of tackle Warren was

designed to discourage the double-team blocking that hindered Brown's debut, as well as to clog enemy running inside. The Cleveland defense gave up an AFC-worst 156.6 rushing yards per game. Brown will be moved to right end, with **Orpheus Roye** switched from tackle to left end. **Stalin Colinet** will play left tackle and **Keith McKenzie**, who led the Browns with eight of their 42 sacks, will be the swing end. Colinet may end up playing more end than tackle.

The line is the first part of the defensive reconstruction. The linebacking was improved by the free-agent signing of **Dwayne Rudd** from Minnesota. The other outside linebacker, **Jamir Miller**, and middle man **Wali Rainer** should benefit from the reupholstered line. The arrival of the versatile and athletic Rudd allows Davis to move Miller around in a number of attacking positions.

The risks taken defensively last season were illustrated by the four sacks recorded by cornerback **Daylon McCutcheon**. The occasional cornerback sack is one thing, but doing it enough to result in four sacks is trouble. **Corey Fuller**, the other corner, accounted for three of the Browns' meager 12 interceptions. **Percy Ellsworth** returns at free safety and **Marquis Smith** is the strong safety. This part of the lineup could experience many changes throughout the season.

Bruce Arians, the new offensive coordinator, will install the West Coast offense, with the emphasis on short passing. The Browns have neither the line nor the receivers for much more than short passing.



Third-year quarterback Tim Couch completed 63.7 percent of his passes last year, but neither of his top two receivers, Kevin Johnson (below) nor Dennis Northcutt, caught a touchdown pass.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	220.6 31
RUSHING	67.8 30
PASSING	152.8 30
SCORING	161 31
PUNT RETURNS	10.1 12T
KICK RETURNS	20.1 29
RED ZONE TD %	46.9 20

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	352.7 26
AGAINST RUSH	156.6 29
AGAINST PASS	196.1 12
PTS. ALLOWED	419 27
INTERCEPTIONS	12 24T
SACKS	42 11T
TURNOVER DIFF.	-3 18



DENNIS NORTHCUTT
39 RECEPTIONS 422 YARDS

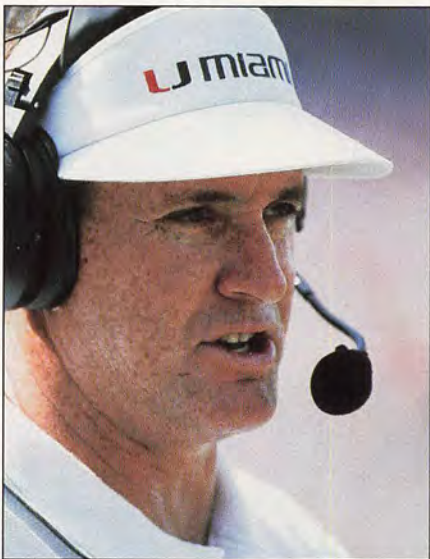
Davis' biggest handicap in making any sort of major improvement is the absence of a feature running back of first rank. The Browns have tried just about everything without success. The latest was to sign Curtis Enis of the Bears, a stellar prospect when he came out of Penn State. He didn't last the first mini-camp, retiring because of knee problems. Neither **Erriett Rhett** nor **Travis Prentice** was the answer, so the expectation is that Davis will give one of his own Miami Hurricanes, third-round rookie **James Jackson**, a chance to be No. 1.

Couch potatoes in receiving corps

The passing attack bogged down as soon as young quarterback **Tim Couch** was injured. Davis would like to protect him with a running game, but it won't be easy. Neither starting wide receiver, **Kevin Johnson** nor **Dennis Northcutt**, caught a touchdown pass last season. Rookie **Quincy Morgan**, big and fast, needs a lot of coaching, but his talent could make him valuable late in the season.

Arians, who was quarterbacks coach at Indianapolis, is an advocate of two-tight end alignments, which is one reason **Rickey Dudley**

New coach Butch Davis (left) wants badly to establish a running game to take the heat off young quarterback Tim Couch. Second-year rusher Travis Prentice, who led the Browns with 512 yards last year, is the best returning backfield alternative.



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 3, Lost 13

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 7-27	Jacksonville
09/10	W 24-7	at Cincinnati
09/17	W 23-20	Pittsburgh
09/24	L 10-36	at Oakland
10/01	L 0-12	Baltimore
10/08	L 21-29	at Arizona
10/15	L 10-44	at Denver
10/22	L 0-22	at Pittsburgh
10/29	L 3-12	Cincinnati
11/05	L 3-24	New York Giants
11/12	W 19-11	New England
11/19	L 10-24	at Tennessee
11/26	L 7-44	at Baltimore
12/03	L 0-48	at Jacksonville
12/10	L 24-35	Philadelphia
12/17	L 0-24	Tennessee

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Prentice	173	512	3.0	17	7
Rhett	71	258	3.6	42	0
White	47	145	3.1	14	0
Pederson	18	68	3.8	15	0
Couch	12	45	3.8	31	0
Northcutt	9	33	3.7	13	0
Wynn	3	15	5.0	11	0
Edwards	2	9	4.5	6	0
Thompson	1	0	0	0	0
Team	336	1085	3.2	42	7
Opponents	594	2505	4.2	361	26

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Johnson	57	669	11.7	79	0
Northcutt	39	422	10.8	37	0
Patten	38	546	14.4	65	1
Prentice	37	191	5.2	13	1
Shea	30	302	10.1	37	2
Edwards	16	128	8.0	21	2
Rhett	14	78	5.6	16	0
White	13	100	7.7	25	0
Campbell	12	80	6.7	17	1
Dawson	9	97	10.8	26	1
Chiaverini	8	38	8.5	18	1
Brown	2	14	7.0	8	0
Saleh	1	22	22.0	22	0
Dunn	1	6	6.0	6	0
Jackson	1	5	5.0	5	0
Team	278	2728	9.8	79	9
Opponents	262	3408	13.0	61	18

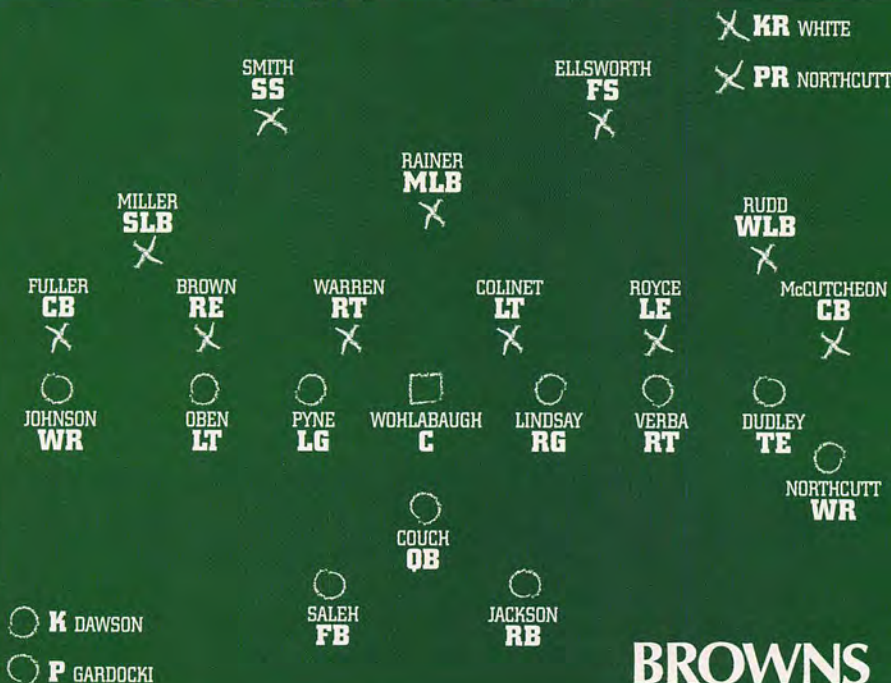
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Couch	215	137	1483	7	9
Pederson	210	117	1047	2	8
Wynn	54	22	167	0	1
Johnson	3	1	23	0	1
Thompson	1	1	8	0	0
Team	483	278	2728	9	19
Opponents	486	262	3408	18	1

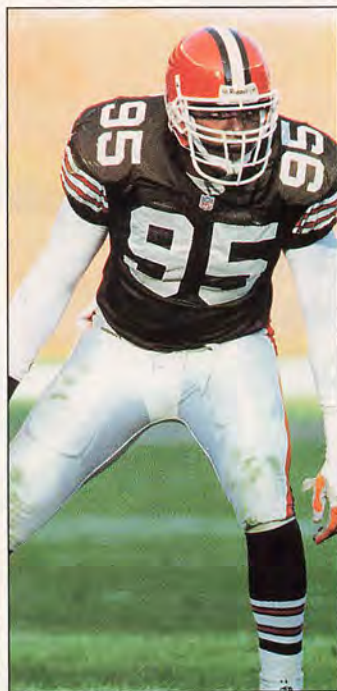
SACKS

McKenzie 8.0, J. Miller 5.0, Brown 4.5, McCutcheon 4.0, Colinet 3.5, Jones 2.5, Abdullah 2.0, Rogers 2.0, Royce 2.0, Spriggs 2.0, Holland 1.0, A. Miller 1.5, Moore 1.0, Rainer 1.0, Smith 1.0, Thompson 1.0

Team 42.0, Opponent 40.0

PROJECTED STARTERS





Defensive end Courtney Brown (left) and linebacker Jamir Miller are two of the building blocks for what is a potentially promising defense in Cleveland.

of the Raiders was signed as a free agent. Dudley still has enormous potential, but it's rare that Al Davis gives up on a player of his physical skills. If Butch Davis can get more out of him, the ex-Ohio State basketball player may be the best thing to happen to Couch. Also signed was ex-Falcon **A.J. Odofin**. Aaron Shea, who started at tight end last season as a rookie, may be out of the picture.

The major improvement on the offensive line was the signing of former Packer tough guy **Ross Verba** to play right tackle. The return of left guard **Jim Pyne** from the injured list was also upbeat news. Center **Dave Wohlabaugh** is the most effective of the incumbent line starters. **Roman Oben** is the holdover left tackle. **Everett Lindsay** will be challenged at left guard.

The kicking game is adequate, with **Chris Gardocki** at punter and **Phil Dawson** the placekicker. Northcutt's 10.7-yard average landed him among the NFL's top 10 punt returners. The coaches like second-year man **Jamel White**, not only as a kick returner but a spot running back. ■

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Butch Davis, head coach

Terry Robiskie, wide receivers; Keith Butler, linebackers; Bruce Arians, offensive coordinator; Ray Hamilton, defensive line; Jerry Rosburg, special teams; Todd Bowles, defensive nickel package; Carl Smith, quarterbacks; Tim Jorgensen, strength and conditioning; Steve Hargen, tight ends; Todd McNair, running backs; Rob Phillips, asst. strength and conditioning coach; Larry Zierlein, offensive line; Foge Fazio, defensive coordinator; Phil Banko, defensive assistant; Chuck Pagano, defensive backs coach

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Detmer, Ty	QB 6-0	194	10/30/67	6	Brigham Young
15	Brohm, Jeff	QB 6-1	205	4/24/71	2	Louisville
	Holcomb, Kelly	QB 6-2	212	7/9/73	1	Middle Tennessee State
2	Couch, Tim	QB 6-4	227	7/31/77	2	Kentucky
13	Wynn, Spurgeon	QB 6-3	226	8/10/78	1	Southwest Texas State
16	Thompson, Kevin	QB 6-5	236	7/27/77	1	Penn State

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
61	Lindsay, Everett	G 6-4	302	9/18/70	6	Mississippi
71	Pyne, Jim	G 6-2	297	11/23/71	6	Virginia Tech
64	Wohlabaugh, Dave	C 6-3	292	4/13/72	6	Syracuse
72	Oben, Roman	T 6-4	305	10/9/72	5	Louisville
	Verba, Ross	G 6-4	308	10/31/73	4	Iowa
65	Bundren, Jim	G 6-3	303	10/6/74	2	Clemson
66	McKinney, Jeremy	T 6-6	301	1/6/76	0	Iowa
75	Zahursky, Steve	T 6-6	305	9/2/76	2	Kent
69	Chanoine, Roger	T 6-4	295	8/11/76	2	Temple
63	Bedell, Brad	T 6-4	299	2/12/77	1	Colorado
60	O'Hara, Shaun	C 6-3	287	6/23/77	1	Rutgers
79	LaMontagne, Noel	T 6-4	301	3/9/77	1	Virginia

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Rhett, Errict	RB 5-11	211	12/11/70	7	Florida
40	Saleh, Tarek	RB 6-0	240	11/7/74	4	Wisconsin
34	Floyd, Chris	RB 6-2	235	6/23/75	3	Michigan
45	Sellers, Mike	RB 6-3	260	7/21/75	3	Walla Walla C.C.
41	Prentice, Travis	RB 5-11	221	12/8/76	1	Miami (OH)
30	White, Jamel	RB 5-9	208	2/11/77	1	South Dakota

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Dudley, Rickey	TE 6-6	225	7/15/72	5	Ohio State
87	Santiago, O.J.	TE 6-7	265	4/4/74	4	Kent
48	Monroe, Rodrick	TE 6-5	245	7/30/75	1	Cincinnati
85	Johnson, Kevin	WR 5-11	195	7/15/76	2	Syracuse
84	Chiaverini, Mark	WR 6-2	210	10/12/77	2	Colorado
83	Campbell, Mark	TE 6-6	253	12/6/75	2	Michigan
81	Jackson, Lenzie	WR 6-0	184	6/17/77	2	Arizona State
86	Northcutt, Dennis	WR 5-11	175	12/22/77	1	Arizona
88	Dawson, JaJuan	WR 6-1	197	11/5/77	1	Tulane
80	Shea, Aaron	TE 6-3	244	12/5/76	1	Michigan
12	O'Conner, Drew	WR 6-3	211	2/2/76	0	Maine
89	Brown, Bobby	WR 6-2	197	3/26/77	1	Notre Dame

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Alexander, Derrick	DE 6-4	286	11/3/73	5	Florida State
73	Holland, Darius	DT 6-5	330	11/10/73	6	Colorado
96	Thompson, Mike	DT 6-4	296	12/22/71	4	Wisconsin
90	McKenzie, Keith	DE 6-3	273	10/17/73	5	Ball State
99	Royce, Orpheus	DT 6-4	288	1/21/74	5	Florida State
97	Kuehl, Ryan	DT 6-5	290	1/18/72	4	Virginia
93	Colinet, Stalin	DT 6-6	288	7/17/74	4	Boston College
93	Smith, Mark	DT 6-4	294	8/28/74	4	Auburn
91	Spriggs, Marcus	DT 6-4	314	7/26/76	2	Troy State
98	Miller, Arnold	DE 6-3	239	1/3/75	2	LSU
78	Rogers, Tyrone	DE 6-5	236	10/11/76	2	Alabama State
92	Brown, Courtney	DE 6-4	266	2/14/78	1	Penn State

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
24	Fuller, Corey	CB 5-10	205	05/01/71	6	Florida State
31	Jackson, Raymond	CB 5-10	189	02/17/73	5	Colorado State
40	Elsworth, Percy	S 6-2	225	10/19/74	5	Virginia
20	Little, Earl	CB 6-0	198	03/10/73	3	Miami (FL)
33	McCutcheon, Daylon	CB 5-10	180	12/09/76	2	Southern California
21	Smith, Marquis	S 6-2	213	01/13/75	2	California
25	Sanders, Lewis	CB 6-0	200	06/22/78	2	Maryland
26	Malbrough, Anthony	CB 5-10	185	12/09/76	1	Texas Tech
22	Franz, Todd	CB 6-0	194	04/12/76	1	Tulsa
27	Chapman, Lamar	CB 6-0	186	04/12/76	1	Kansas State
28	Barnes, Rashidi	S 5-11	205	06/26/78	1	Colorado

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Boyer, Brant	LB 6-1	230	6/27/71	7	Arizona
55	Moore, Marty	LB 6-1	245	3/19/71	7	Kentucky
95	Miller, Jamir	LB 6-5	266	11/19/73	7	UCLA
56	Jones, Lenoy	LB 6-1	235	9/25/74	5	Texas Christian
57	Rudd, Dwayne	LB 6-2	237	2/3/76	4	Alabama
54	Burnett, Chester	LB 5-10	230	4/15/75	2	Arizona
53	Abdullah, Rahim	LB 6-5	233	3/22/76	2	Clemson
58	Rainer, Wali	LB 6-2	245	4/19/77	2	Virginia

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Gardocki, Chris	P 6-1	200	2/7/70	10	Clemson
4	Dawson, Phil	K 5-11	190	1/23/75	2	Texas

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	3	Warren, Gerard	DT	6-3	325	7/25/78	Florida
2	2	Morgan, Quincy	WR	6-1	211	9/23/77	Kansas State
3	3	Jackson, James	RB	5-10	210	8/4/76	Miami (FL)
4	2	Henry, Anthony	CB	6-0	205	11/3/76	South Florida
5	3	Pharms, Jeremiah	LB	6-0	250	6/24/78	Washington
6	2	Jameson, Michael	CB	5-11	188	12/16/76	Texas A&M
7	3	Zukauskas, Paul	T	6-6	315	7/12/79	Boston College
7	45	King, Andre	WR	5-11	195	11/26/73	Miami (FL)

*All times Eastern



Scoring points on the road is the first step to getting the Bengals back on the road to respectability.

They say that in the NFL, what reveals the character of a team is its ability to win on the road, on foreign fields amid a hostile environment. Check out these numbers: 0-0-0-12-6-13-3-7. Those are the game-by-game points scored by Cincinnati on its way to a 1-7 road record last season. The lone victory came against expansion Cleveland. How about those Bengals?

K-I-T-N-A does not spell relief

This franchise is inscrutable in its effort to heal what ails it. The Bengals' only major free-agent signing was Seattle quarterback **Jon Kitna**, whom Mike Holmgren decided

he could easily do without. Kitna had an interception ratio of 4.5, a figure higher than only Trent Dilfer and Ryan Leaf, both canned by their teams after the season. Kitna also led the league in fumbles with 17, including four in his final game as a Seahawk.

His closest competitor in that category was **Akili Smith**, Cincinnati's incumbent starter who fumbled 14 times. The proper way to accept snaps from center should be the first item of business in the Bengal training camp.

There is a difference between the two. Smith was in his first season as the starter. Cincinnati made him the third pick in the entire draft two years ago. **Darnay Scott**, the team's leading receiver with more than 1,000 yards in '99, missed all of last season after breaking his leg. He is expected to be ready to participate in training camp.

So Smith broke in without the man who should have been his No. 1 collaborator. Instead, his main target became talented but unpolished rookie **Peter Warrick**, putting Smith at a major disadvantage. Not only was Kitna signed for \$10 million, but the front office, not famous for its largesse, spent \$800,000 to re-sign journeyman quarterback **Scott Mitchell**. Apparently this is the definition of "patience" with a kid quarterback in Cincinnati.

There may be a couple of reasons for the downgrade of Smith. The first was his arrest for a DUI in January, an infraction that does not go down well in conservative Cincinnati.

Jon Kitna arrives from Seattle to battle Akili Smith for the starting quarterback position after posting less-than-impressive numbers with the Seahawks.



Third-year quarterback Akili Smith opened last season as the Bengals' starting QB, but finished the year sitting on the bench behind veteran Scott Mitchell.

The second was the hiring of Bob Bratkowski, who once worked with Kitna in Seattle, as the new offensive coordinator.

Offense too dependent on Dillon

With Scott out of action and both the quarterback and top receiver so inexperienced, the passing game finished dead last in the league while the running attack was used for three-quarters of the offensive production. In effect, **Corey Dillon**, with his 1,435 rushing yards, was the Cincinnati offense. Dillon tried to escape via free agency, but the franchise tag was attached to him.

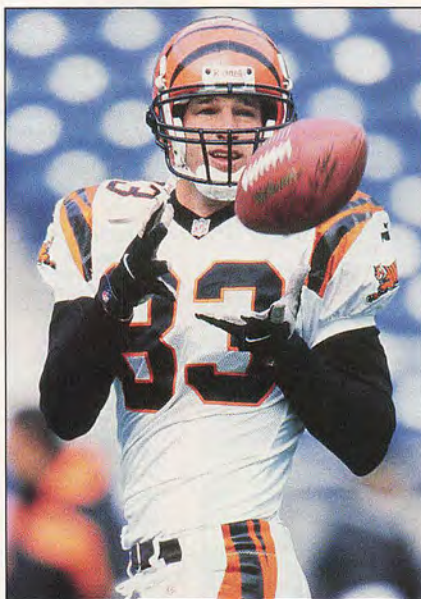
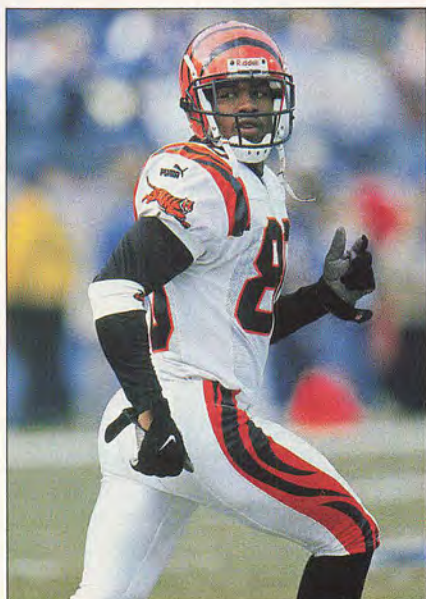
Whether it's Kitna, Smith or even Mitchell at quarterback, the running game is likely to be supreme again as long as Dillon stays around. To help Dillon, the Bengals signed longtime Miami left tackle **Richmond Webb**, allowing **Willie Anderson** to stay at his familiar right tackle position. **Matt O'Dwyer**, the left guard, broke his ankle in November but recovered and was re-signed. The young right guard, **Mike Goff**, is a comer. **Brock Gutierrez**, who's had indifferent results when he's had to start in the past, will probably take over at center.



TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	266.3 29	TOTAL DEFENSE	342.9 22
RUSHING	144.6 2	AGAINST RUSH	120.3 24
PASSING	121.6 31	AGAINST PASS	222.6 23
SCORING	185 30	PTS. ALLOWED	359 21
PUNT RETURNS	8.5 22T	INTERCEPTIONS	9 30
KICK RETURNS	18.5 16T	SACKS	26 28
RED ZONE TD %	39.4 28T	TURNOVER DIFF.	-14 28T



CRAIG YEAST
24 RECEPTIONS 301 YARDS



The Bengals finished last season with No. 1 pick Peter Warrick (left) and waiver acquisition Danny Farmer manning the starting receiver slots. With 51 catches, Warrick was the first rookie to lead the team in catches since 1973, while Farmer posted Cincinnati's only 100-yard receiving day vs. Jacksonville.

It would be sound business to make sure Warrick gets the ball a lot more. In the last half of the season he began finding the end zone, not only as a receiver but as a runner, with a reverse and a punt return. He's a special player and may be able to do for the Bengals what he used to do for Florida State. The draft brings **Chad Johnson**, a second-round choice out of Oregon State who has all the size and speed necessary to become a big-time NFL receiver. Since he's the cousin of Keyshawn Johnson and Samari Rolle, Tennessee's superb corner-

back, he has good NFL bloodlines. Bratkowski has to get more out of his tight ends. **Tony McGee** had just 26 catches last year.

Mizzou's Smith impacts line

The big change on defense is the addition of the Bengals' No. 1 draft pick, Missouri pass rusher **Justin Smith**, who has the right stuff to line up immediately at right end. The front office signed **Tony Williams** of the Vikings to line up at tackle next to Smith. **Kevin Henry** was signed from the

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 4, Lost 12

DATE		SCORE	
09/10	L	7-24	Cleveland
09/17	L	0-13	at Jacksonville
09/24	L	0-37	at Baltimore
10/01	L	16-31	Miami
10/08	L	14-23	Tennessee
10/15	L	0-15	at Pittsburgh
10/22	W	31-21	Denver
10/29	W	12-3	at Cleveland
11/05	L	7-27	Baltimore
11/12	L	6-23	at Dallas
11/19	L	13-16	at New England
11/26	L	28-48	Pittsburgh
12/03	W	24-13	Arizona
12/10	L	3-35	at Tennessee
12/17	W	17-14	Jacksonville
12/24	L	7-16	at Philadelphia

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Dillon	315	1435	4.6	80t	7
Bennett	90	324	3.6	37t	3
Smith	41	232	5.7	21	0
Warrick	16	148	9.2	77t	2
Mitchell	10	61	6.1	12t	1
Williams	10	54	5.4	13	0
Keaton	6	24	11.0	22	0
Pope	1	15	15.0	15	0
Yeast	3	4	1.3	5	0
Groce	3	4	1.3	5	0
Team	495	2314	4.7	80t	13
Opponents	504	1925	3.8	30	12

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Warrick	51	592	11.6	46	4
McGee	26	309	11.9	39	1
Yeast	24	301	12.5	27	0
Farmer	19	268	14.1	38	0
Bennett	19	168	8.8	25	0
Dillon	18	158	8.8	31	0
Dugans	14	125	8.9	17	1
Battaglia	13	105	8.1	15	0
Groce	11	45	4.1	14	0
Williams	7	84	12.0	20	0
Bush	3	39	13.0	18	0
Griffin	2	25	12.5	16	0
Team	207	2219	10.7	46	6
Opponents	318	3730	11.7	77t	26

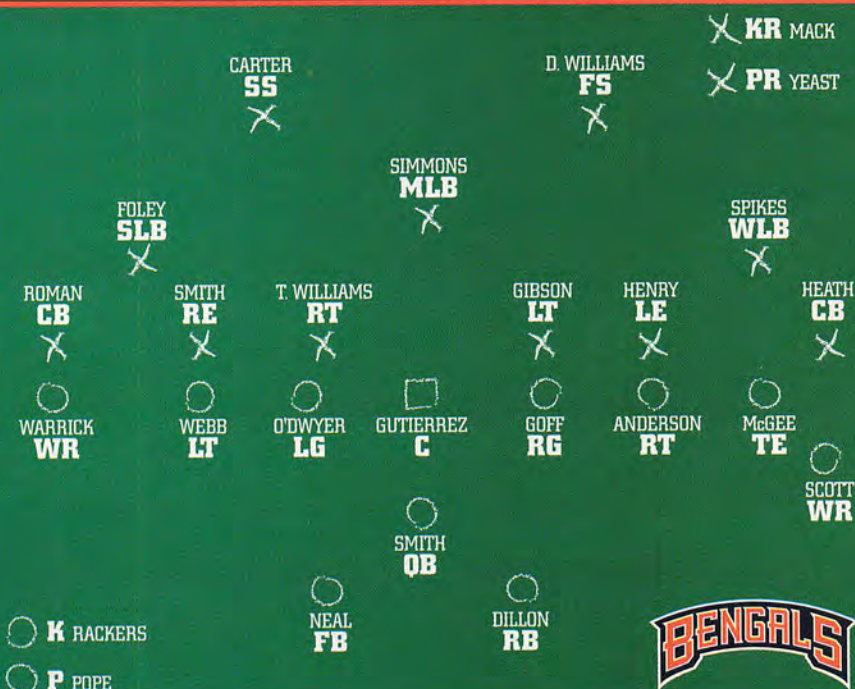
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Smith	267	118	1253	3	6
Mitchell	187	89	966	3	8
Team	454	207	2219	6	14
Opponents	538	318	3730	26	9

SACKS

Gibson 4.0, Foley 4.0, Hall 4.0, Wilson 3.0, Spikes 2.0, Curtis 2.0, Steele 2.0, Spearman 1.0, Carter 1.0, Copeland 1.0, Ross 1.0, Simmons 1.0

Team 26.0, Opponent 52.0

PROJECTED STARTERS





Despite his gripes about playing in Cincinnati, Corey Dillon earned his second straight trip to the Pro Bowl, smashing the Bengals' single-season rushing record with 1,435 yards.

Steelers to battle Vaughn Booker at left end. Left tackle Oliver Gibson was the only lineman to start all 16 games at the same position for Cincy.

Former Maryland head coach Mark Duffner, the new defensive coordinator, plans to use linebacker Steve Foley in a variety of ways to capitalize upon his pass-rush ability. Outside backer Takeo Spikes was the defensive leader and leading tackler a year ago. He had to do it without Brian Simmons, the fine middle linebacker who suffered a season-ending knee injury in the opening game.

The cornerbacks, Rodney Heath and Mark Roman, are young and promising. There is decent depth there with Artrell Hawkins and Robert Bean. Chris Carter made 10 starts at strong safety after being claimed off waivers from New England in preseason. Darryl Williams returned to Cincinnati for his second hitch and made some big plays at free safety, including goal-line stops of Emmitt Smith in the Dallas game and Eddie George against the Titans. Williams finished second in tackles and returned the 30th interception of his career for a touchdown.

All aspects of the kicking game and the return game need to be improved.

 2001 SCHEDULE				
WEEK				
1	9/9	NEW ENGLAND	1:00	
2	9/16	at Tennessee	1:00	
3	9/23	BALTIMORE	1:00	
4	9/30	at San Diego	4:15	
5	10/7	at Pittsburgh	1:00	
6	10/14	CLEVELAND	1:00	
7	10/21	CHICAGO	1:00	
8	10/28	at Detroit	1:00	
9	11/4	OPEN DATE		
10	11/11	at Jacksonville	1:00	
11	11/18	TENNESSEE	1:00	
12	11/25	at Cleveland	1:00	
13	12/2	TAMPA BAY	1:00	
14	12/9	JACKSONVILLE	1:00	
15	12/16	at N.Y. Jets	1:00	
16	12/23	at Baltimore	1:00	
17	12/30	PITTSBURGH	1:00	

*All times Eastern

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Dick LeBeau, head coach

Paul Alexander, offensive line; Bob Bratkowski, offensive coordinator; Sigismondo Cioffi, defensive assistant; Mark Duffner, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Ray Horton, defensive backs/safeties; Tim Krumrie, defensive line; Steve Mooshagian, wide receivers; Al Roberts, special teams; Frank Verducci, tight ends; Kim Wood, strength and conditioning; Ken Anderson, quarterbacks; John Garrett, offensive assistant; Ken Coyle, defensive backs/cornerbacks

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
19	Mitchell, Scott	QB	6-6	240	01/02/68	10 Utah
7	Kitna, Jon	QB	6-2	217	09/21/72	4 Central Washington
15	Kresser, Eric	QB	6-2	223	02/06/73	1 Marshall
11	Smith, Akili	QB	6-3	220	08/21/75	2 Oregon
4	Covington, Scott	QB	6-2	217	01/17/76	1 Miami (FL)
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Jackson, John	T	6-6	297	01/04/65	13 Eastern Kentucky
	Webb, Richmond	T	6-6	320	01/11/67	11 Texas A&M
74	Braham, Rich	C	6-4	305	11/06/70	6 West Virginia
72	O'Dwyer, Matt	G	6-5	308	09/01/72	6 Northwestern
71	Anderson, Willie	T	6-5	340	07/11/75	5 Auburn
75	Stephens, Jamain	T	6-6	335	01/09/74	5 North Carolina A&T
60	Jones, Rod	T	6-4	330	01/11/74	5 Kansas
62	Gutierrez, Brock	C	6-3	304	09/25/73	4 Central Michigan
79	Rehberg, Scott	G	6-8	330	11/17/73	4 Central Michigan
63	Goff, Mike	G	6-5	316	01/06/76	3 Iowa
68	Heimbarger, Craig	G	6-2	312	02/03/77	1 Missouri
76	Doughty, Mike	T	6-7	315	02/17/75	0 Notre Dame
64	Roesler, Roger	G	6-5	315	10/05/77	0 Texas
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Neal, Lorenzo	RB	5-11	240	12/27/70	8 Fresno State
46	Groce, Cliff	RB	5-11	245	07/30/72	5 Texas A&M
36	Bennett, Brandon	RB	5-11	220	02/03/73	2 South Carolina
28	Dillon, Corey	RB	6-1	225	10/24/75	4 Washington
30	Williams, Nick	RB	6-2	267	03/30/77	2 Miami (FL)
35	Basnight, Michael	RB	6-1	235	09/03/77	1 North Carolina A&T
29	Keaton, Curtis	RB	5-10	212	10/18/76	1 James Madison
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
82	McGee, Tony	TE	6-4	248	04/21/71	8 Michigan
86	Scott, Darnay	WR	6-1	205	07/07/72	6 San Diego State
89	Battaglia, Marco	TE	6-3	252	01/25/73	5 Rutgers
84	Yeast, Craig	WR	5-7	165	11/20/76	2 Kentucky
87	Plummer, Chad	WR	6-3	218	11/30/75	1 Cincinnati
87	Griffin, Damon	WR	5-9	186	06/14/76	2 Oregon
80	Warrick, Peter	WR	5-11	195	06/19/77	1 Florida State
81	Dugans, Ron	WR	6-2	205	04/27/77	1 Florida State
83	Farmer, Danny	WR	6-3	217	05/21/77	1 UCLA
	Gavazza, Jason	TE	6-3	247	01/31/76	0 Kent
48	St. Louis, Brad	TE	6-3	246	08/19/76	1 Southwest Missouri State
85	Boyd, LaVell	WR	6-3	215	09/12/76	1 Louisville
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Henry, Kevin	DE	6-4	385	10/23/68	8 Mississippi State
96	Booker, Vaughn	DE	6-5	300	02/24/68	7 Cincinnati
99	Gibson, Oliver	DT	6-2	315	03/15/72	6 Notre Dame
94	Langford, Jevon	DE	6-3	290	02/16/74	5 Oklahoma State
93	Barndt, Tom	DT	6-3	300	03/14/72	5 Pittsburgh
55	Wilson, Reinard	DE	6-2	266	12/12/73	4 Florida State
	Williams, Tony	NT	6-1	286	07/09/75	4 Memphis
70	Steele, Glen	DT	6-4	300	10/04/74	3 Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
31	Williams, Darryl	S	6-0	202	01/07/70	9 Miami (FL)
21	Carter, Tom	CB	6-0	190	09/05/72	8 Notre Dame
42	Carter, Chris	S	6-2	210	09/27/74	4 Texas
34	Mack, Tremain	S	6-0	193	11/21/74	4 Miami (FL)
27	Hawkins, Artrell	CB	5-10	190	11/24/75	3 Cincinnati
26	Hall, Cory	S	6-0	210	12/05/76	2 Fresno State
33	Armour, Jo Juan	S	5-11	220	07/10/76	2 Miami (OH)
22	Heath, Rodney	CB	5-10	175	10/29/74	2 Minnesota
20	Roman, Mark	CB	5-11	188	03/26/77	1 LSU
49	Bean, Robert	CB	5-11	178	01/06/78	1 Mississippi State
41	Thompkins, Gary	S	5-11	200	01/29/77	0 West Virginia
24	Parker, Sirr	CB	6-0	196	10/31/77	1 Texas A&M
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Curtis, Canute	LB	6-2	257	08/04/74	4 West Virginia
51	Spikes, Takeo	LB	6-2	243	12/17/76	3 Auburn
56	Simmons, Brian	LB	6-3	248	06/21/75	3 North Carolina
95	Foley, Steve	LB	6-3	260	09/09/75	3 Northeast Louisiana
57	Ross, Adrian	LB	6-2	250	02/19/75	3 Colorado State
59	Spearman, Armegis	LB	6-1	254	04/05/78	1 Mississippi State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
3	Cunningham, Richie	K	5-10	167	08/18/70	4 Southwestern Louisiana
13	Pope, Daniel	P	5-10	203	03/28/75	2 Alabama
5	Rackers, Neil	K	6-0	205	08/16/76	1 Illinois

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	4	Smith, Justin	DE	6-4	267	9/20/79	Missouri
2	5	Johnson, Chad	WR	6-1	190	1/9/78	Oregon State
3	4	Brewer, Sean	TE	6-4	255	10/5/77	San Jose State
4	5	Johnson, Rudi	RB	5-9	227	10/1/79	Auburn
5	4	Leyva, Victor	T	6-4	310	12/18/77	Arizona State
6	5	Johnson, Riall	DE	6-2	240	4/20/78	Stanford
7	4	Houshmandzadeh, T.J.	WR	6-1	202	9/26/77	Oregon State



Offseason shows Broncos will pay the 'Pryce' to get back on top of division.

By Larry Felser, *Buffalo News*

Just as it was a year ago, the West appears to be a fight to the end between Denver and Oakland, those age-old rivals. Circle the calendar for December 30, the last Sunday on the regular schedule, when the Broncos and Raiders meet in Denver. It could decide the division championship.

Denver Broncos

The Broncos' offseason moves were the sort made by a team that considers itself on the cusp of qualifying for the Super Bowl again. Key veterans were re-signed, including defensive tackle Trevor Pryce, who was made the highest-paid defender in the NFL. A platoon of helpful free agents were signed. The offensive and defensive lines were done over. So was the secondary.

What it may get down to is the quarterbacking. When Dan Marino retired in Miami they sculpted a life-size statue of him outside the stadium and constructed a shrine of his old locker, which gave it the look of Marilyn Monroe's tomb. When John Elway retired in Denver, they gave him a fond farewell, but quickly turned the page to Brian Griese, who is capable of constructing an era of his own.

Oakland Raiders

The Raiders won the division last season largely on the heroics of well-worn Rich Gannon, a career backup quarterback who turned out to be the ignitor coach John Gruden was seeking. It might happen again, but that might require an inexhaustible supply of Geritol. Gannon, 35, will be throwing to 35-year-old Tim Brown, surrounded by a cast of other graybeards.

The signing of veteran running back Charlie Garner means the Raiders will again lean heavily on its league champion running game. Garner will be blended with Tyrone Wheatley, Oakland's heavy-duty back.

Seattle Seahawks

Looking for a spoiler? Try Mike Holmgren's made-over Seattle Seahawks,

who junked their underperforming defense in favor of an injection of free agents. Holmgren, who used his first season as the Seahawks' boss as a proving ground and instead got a non-proving ground, also dumped his former quarterback (Jon Kitna) and traded with his old team, Green Bay, for Brett Favre's backup, Matt Hasselbeck.

San Diego Chargers

There is a new sheriff in San Diego, John Butler, who used to make chicken salad out of chicken feathers in his Buffalo drafts. Gone are the laid-back days of ex-GM Bobby Beathard and in their place a demand for performance. The Ryan Leaf debacle is history. Doug Flutie is the new quarterback until Drew Brees is ready. The impact rookie is expected to be running back LaDainian Tomlinson.

Flutie should feel comfortable in San Diego. Only one of four quarterbacks on the Charger roster is taller than six feet. And, like Flutie, one of the quarterbacks is a former CFL star, Dave Dickenson.

Neither Flutie nor Tomlinson may make much of an impact if something dramatic doesn't happen to the Chargers' jumble of an offensive line. The only reliable lineman is Vaughn Parker, who is being moved from his normal right tackle position to left tackle, where he is far less comfortable.

Kansas City Chiefs

Dick Vermeil, who can't seem to stay retired, is Kansas City's new coach and his one-time starting quarterback in St. Louis, Trent Green, is the man around whom he will attempt to rebuild the Chiefs to the point of competing with old foes Denver and Oakland. This may be harder than putting together the Rams in his last job.

The priority tasks are to find a feature back who could give the Chiefs a consistent ground game to go with their explosive passing attack, and then to rebuild the defensive line.

TOP PLAYERS

OFFENSE:
Brian Griese, QB
Denver Broncos

DEFENSE:
Junior Seau, LB
San Diego Chargers

NEWCOMER:
Levon Kirkland, LB
Seattle Seahawks





A healthy Griese and a loaded backfield may have them soon forgetting Elway in Denver.

Last April Brian Griese was signed to a Denver contract of which his father, Hall-of-Famer Bob Griese, couldn't dream of when he was a player—\$38 million over six years with a \$12.5 million signing bonus. Then again, even Bob, in his best season with the Dolphins, never put together such fodder for successful negotiations.

Griese started only 10 games last year, but what a stretch of performances it was. He had a franchise-record .643 completion percentage, the best passer rating in the league (102.9), a career-record 19 touchdown passes and the second-best touchdown pass-to-interception ratio in NFL history. He was also

voted a team offensive co-captain midway through the season and, despite missing six games and most of another, was voted to the Pro Bowl. No wonder Bronco fans are psyched up about the 2001 season.

Life of Brian

The entire litany of accomplishments may have been trumped by one Monday night performance. It came against blood rival Oakland on November 13 when he suffered a separated anterior cruciate joint in his right (throwing) shoulder. He left the game during Denver's second offensive series and was taken to the dressing room for examination. He returned in the second quarter, obviously in great pain. In the fourth quarter he completed all six of his passes on a 73-yard drive that put the Broncos ahead, 24-10. The Raiders tied it, 24-24, but with 1:01 to play Griese led a final, 44-yard drive to set up Jason Elam's 41-yard field goal for the victory.

If Griese put his body on the line for his team in that manner, what do you think his teammates would do for him in return? If there is such a thing as a sound investment in these days of 11-figure contracts, the Broncos made it. In a nutshell, Denver is a Super Bowl team with Griese at quarterback, probably not a playoff team without him.

Even with Griese out of the lineup for as much as he was, only St. Louis had a more impressive offensive performance last season, and the Broncos were far more balanced than the Rams.

Quarterback Brian Griese earned his first Pro Bowl trip last season by completing a franchise-record 64 percent of his passes.



Running back Terrell Davis, who played in only five games last season, is one of just nine players in history to win NFL and Super Bowl MVP in the same season (1998).

Trouble in 3s

A signal that Mike Shanahan stocked up all his nuts for a comfortable January was his retention of all three of his admirable running backs—Terrell Davis, Olandis Gary and Mike Anderson. There were teams salivating for just one of them. The last time Davis was fully healthy, 1998, he gained more than 2,000 yards and scored 19 touchdowns. After Davis was injured in the fourth game of the '99 season, Gary rushed for 1,159 yards in his rookie year. Shanahan intends to make use of all three, even if he has to make Anderson the fullback.

Griese begins with two receivers coming off 100-catch seasons, Rod Smith and Ed McCaffrey. Shanahan, looking for a speed guy in three-receiver sets, also added Eddie Kennison, who can be electrifying when he's in the mood to play. Young tight end Dwayne Carswell may be in the breakout category, since he caught 49 passes in his first serious playing time. Patrick Hape was signed from Tampa Bay to back up Carswell.

The Broncos get the most out of an offensive line that is largely anonymous. Serious money was spent to re-sign right



TEAM STATS

NFL RANK

TOTAL OFFENSE	409.6	2
RUSHING	144.4	3
PASSING	265.2	3
SCORING	485	2
PUNT RETURNS	10.1	12T
KICK RETURNS	22.4	11
RED ZONE TD %	55.9	7

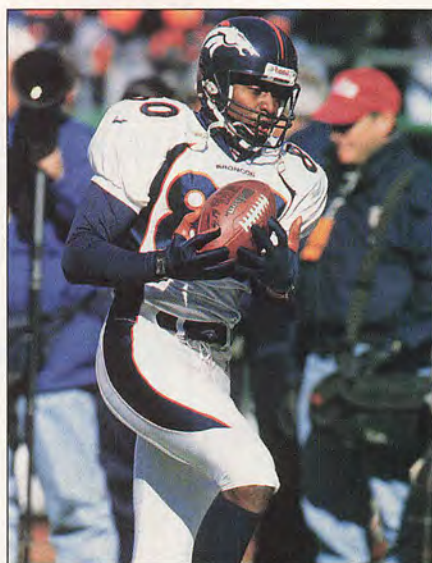
TEAM STATS

NFL RANK

TOTAL DEFENSE	346.5	24
AGAINST RUSH	99.9	7
AGAINST PASS	246.6	31
PTS. ALLOWED	369	23
INTERCEPTIONS	27	2
SACKS	44	9
TURNOVER DIFF.	+19	2



ED McCAFFEY
101 RECEPTIONS 9 TDS



With NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year Mike Anderson at running back and Pro Bowler Rod Smith as the go-to receiver, Denver ranked second in the league in total offense last season.

guard Dan Neil and right tackle Matt Lepsis. Tom Nalen is the constant at center. Ex-Jaguar Todd Fordham will contend with Cooper Carlisle for the vacant left tackle job, while ex-49er Phil Ostrowski challenges Lenny Friedman at left guard. The consistent work of this underappreciated group is reflected in the yardage total of the last three starting running backs.

Line alterations

Major alterations were made on the defensive line, not surprising since the Broncos finished dead last in NFL pass

defense and inconsistent heat on enemy passers was a big part of that. Ex-Cowboy Leon Lett, a terror when he isn't being a headache to his employers, may slide in next to Pryce, who had a dozen sacks last year. Ex-Chief/Raider Chester McGlockton, another "in-the-mood" talent, will be a sink-or-swim addition at end or tackle. Keith Washington, who couldn't get much playing time amid all that talent in Baltimore, is another new end.

Shanahan needs sturdy play from his line because the linebacking is questionable. Not only is Bill Romanowski's bad-guy act getting

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/04	L 36-41	at St. Louis
09/10	W 42-14	Atlanta
09/17	W 33-24	at Oakland
09/24	L 22-23	Kansas City
10/01	L 19-28	New England
10/08	W 21-7	at San Diego
10/15	W 44-10	Cleveland
10/22	L 21-31	at Cincinnati
11/05	W 30-23	at New York Jets
11/13	W 27-24	Oakland
11/19	W 38-37	San Diego
11/26	W 38-31	at Seattle
12/03	W 38-23	at New Orleans
12/10	W 31-24	Seattle
12/17	L 7-20	at Kansas City
12/23	W 38-9	San Francisco

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Anderson	297	1500	5.1	80t	15
Davis	78	282	3.6	24	2
Coleman	54	183	3.4	24t	1
Griese	29	102	3.5	18	1
R. Smith	6	99	16.5	50t	1
Gary	13	80	6.2	25	0
Frerotte	22	64	2.9	13t	1
Harris	10	22	2.2	6	0
Griffith	5	4	0.8	3	0
Team	516	2324	4.5	80t	21
Opponents	344	1598	4.6	77t	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
McCauffrey	101	1317	13.0	61	9
R. Smith	100	1602	16.0	49	8
Carswell	49	495	10.1	43t	3
Clark	27	339	12.6	44	3
Anderson	23	169	7.3	18	0
Chamberlain	22	283	12.9	3	1
Griffith	16	101	6.3	16	2
Brooks	3	51	17.0	25	0
Gary	3	10	3.3	7	0
Davis	2	4	2.0	5	0
McGriff	2	51	25.5	43t	1
Harris	2	19	9.5	16	0
Montgomery	1	10	10.0	10	0
B. Miller	1	7	7.0	7	0
Coleman	1	5	5.0	5	0
D. Smith	1	1	1.0	1t	1
Team	344	464	42.6	61	28
Opponents	310	4197	13.5	83t	26

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Griese	336	216	2688	19	4
Frerotte	232	138	1776	9	8
Jackson	1	0	0	0	0
Team	569	354	4464	28	12
Opponents	574	310	4197	26	27

SACKS

Pryce 12.0, Pittman 7.0, Wilson 5.0, Tanuvasa 4.0, Romanowski 3.5, Hasselbach 2.5, Gold 2.0, Mobley 2.0, Reagar 2.0, Brown 1.0, Crockett 1.0, Spencer 1.0, Traylor 1.0

Team 44.0, Opponents 30.0

PROJECTED STARTERS

JENKINS
SS

KENNEDY
FS

KR O'NEAL

ROMANOWSKI
SLB

WILSON
MLB

MOBLEY
WLB

O'NEAL
CB

McCAUFFREY
WR

McGLOCKTON
RE

CARLISLE
LT

PRYCE
RT

FRIEDMAN
LG

LETT
LT

NEIL
RG

WASHINGTON
LE

LEPSIS
RT

WALKER
CB

CARSWELL
TE

NALEN
C

ANDERSON
FB

GRIESE
QB

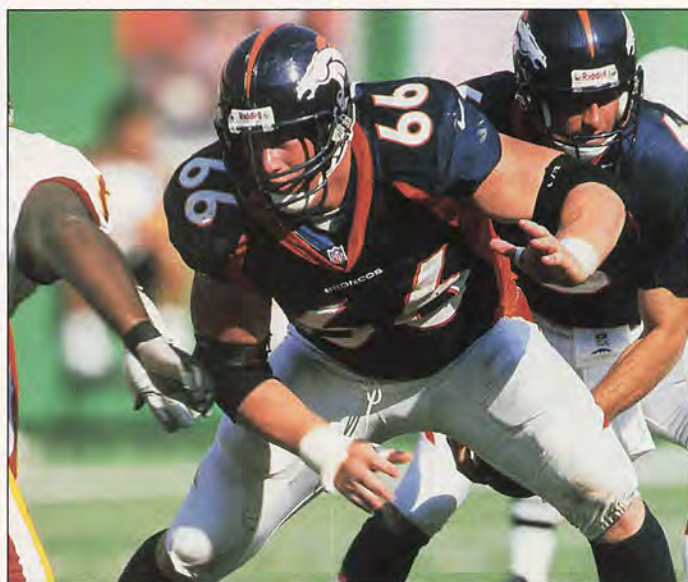
DAVIS
RB

SMITH
WR

K ELAM

P HARRIS

BRONCOS



Veteran center Tom Nalen (above) made his fourth straight Pro Bowl last season, while linebacker John Mobley led the Broncos in tackles with 133.



old, so is he at 35. Al Wilson had a poor season at middle linebacker and John Mobley is a smallish weakside linebacker. Ian Gold, also on the small side, is the relief man.

Denard Walker was signed from Tennessee to play right corner. Deltha O'Neal and ex-Charger Daryll Lewis will take a run at Ray Crockett's job on the right side. The No. 1 draftee, corner Willie Middlebrooks, will play somewhere. Kenoy Kennedy is the free safety, if he's healthy, and Billy Jenkins returns at free safety.

Minor injuries resulted in a subpar year for placekicker Elam from beyond the 40-yard line, but he's expected to bounce back. There is less optimism for punter Tom Rouen, who will get a major challenge from rookie Nick Harris. O'Neal is the top punt and kickoff return man.

DENVER BRONCOS

Mike Shanahan, head coach

Frank Bush, special teams; Rick Dennison, offensive line; Ron Milus, defensive backs; George Dyer, defensive line; Alex Gibbs, assistant head coach/offensive line; Gary Kubiak, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks; Pat McPherson, offensive assistant; Brian Pariani, tight ends; Ray Rhodes, defensive coordinator; Cedric Smith, assistant strength and conditioning; Greg Saporta, assistant strength and conditioning; Steve Watson, defensive assistant; John Teerlinck, pass rush specialist; Bobby Turner, running backs; Rich Tuten, strength and conditioning; Anthony Lynn, special teams assistant; David Gibbs, safeties; Karl Dorrell, wide receivers; Larry Coyer, linebackers; Zaven Yarialian, assistant to head

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Frerotte, Gus	QB 6-3	230	07/31/71	7	Tulsa
	McAda, Ronnie	QB 6-3	202	11/21/74	0	Army
14	Griese, Brian	QB 6-3	215	03/18/75	3	Michigan
17	Jackson, Jarius	QB 6-0	228	05/03/77	1	Notre Dame
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
66	Nalen, Tom	C 6-3	286	05/13/71	7	Boston College
65	Neujahr, Quentin	C 6-4	302	01/30/71	5	Kansas State
	Brooks, Ethan	T 6-6	297	04/27/72	3	Williams
62	Neil, Dan	G 6-2	281	10/21/73	4	Texas
	Fordham, Todd	T 6-5	308	10/09/73	3	Florida State
69	Ostrowski, Phil	G 6-4	291	09/23/75	2	Penn State
70	Teague, Trey	T 6-5	285	12/27/74	2	Tennessee
68	Ruhman, Chris	T 6-5	321	12/19/74	2	Texas A&M
60	Jones, K.C.	C 6-1	275	03/28/74	1	Miami (FL)
78	Lepis, Matt	T 6-4	290	01/13/74	3	Colorado
64	Friedman, Lennie	G 6-3	300	10/13/76	1	Duke
65	Carlisle, Cooper	G 6-5	300	08/11/77	1	Florida State
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
29	Griffith, Howard	RB 6-0	240	11/17/67	8	Illinois
30	Davis, Terrell	RB 5-11	210	10/28/72	6	Georgia
42	Smith, Detron	RB 5-10	230	02/25/74	5	Texas A&M
22	Gary, Olandis	RB 5-11	218	05/18/75	2	Georgia
49	Powell, Marvin	RB 6-2	235	06/06/76	1	Southern California
38	Anderson, Mike	RB 6-0	235	09/21/73	1	Utah
46	Coleman, KaRon	RB 5-7	198	05/22/78	1	Stephen F. Austin
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
87	McCaffrey, Ed	WR 6-5	215	08/17/68	10	Stanford
89	Carswell, Dwayne	TE 6-3	260	01/18/72	7	Liberty
80	Smith, Rod	WR 6-0	200	05/15/70	6	Missouri Southern State
82	Kennison, Eddie	WR 6-0	198	01/20/73	5	LSU
	Hape, Patrick	TE 6-4	262	06/06/74	4	Alabama
89	Thelwell, Ryan	WR 6-2	200	04/06/73	1	Minnesota
83	McGriff, Travis	WR 5-8	185	06/24/76	2	Florida
88	Clark, Desmond	TE 6-3	255	04/20/77	2	Wake Forest
82	Miller, Billy	TE 6-3	225	04/24/77	2	Southern California
84	Cole, Chris	WR 6-0	195	11/12/77	1	Texas A&M
19	Moore, Muneer	WR 6-1	200	03/15/77	0	Richmond
81	Montgomery, S.	WR 6-1	195	05/26/78	1	Duke
85	Fields, Chafie	WR 6-1	200	02/04/77	0	Penn State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Archambeau, Lester	DE 6-5	275	06/27/67	11	Stanford
	Lett, Leon	DT 6-6	290	10/12/68	10	Emporia State
75	McGlockton, Chester	DT 6-4	334	09/16/69	9	Clemson
96	Hasselbach, Harald	DE 6-6	285	09/22/67	7	Washington
93	Washington, Keith	DE 6-4	275	12/18/72	5	UNLV
98	Tanuvasa, Maa	DE 6-2	270	11/06/70	6	Hawaii
95	Pittman, Kavika	DE 6-6	273	10/09/74	5	McNeese State
93	Pryce, Trevor	DT 6-5	295	08/03/75	4	Clemson
99	Reagor, Montae	DT 6-2	280	06/29/77	2	Texas Tech
90	Johnson, Jerry	DT 6-0	292	07/11/77	0	Florida State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Lewis, Darryl	CB 5-9	188	12/16/68	10	Arizona
33	Spencer, Jimmy	CB 5-9	180	03/29/69	9	Florida
31	Pounds, Darryl	CB 5-10	189	07/21/72	6	Nicholls State
25	Walker, Denard	CB 6-1	190	08/09/73	4	LSU
43	Brown, DeAuntae	CB 5-10	195	04/28/74	4	Central State
32	Jenkins, Billy	S 5-10	205	07/08/74	4	Howard
33	Taylor, Cordell	CB 6-0	190	12/22/73	2	Hampton
26	Brown, Eric	S 6-0	210	03/20/75	3	Mississippi State
48	Coghill, George	S 6-0	210	03/30/70	3	Wake Forest
35	Suttle, Jason	CB 5-10	182	12/02/74	2	Wisconsin
24	O'Neal, Deltha	CB 5-10	196	01/30/77	1	California
28	Kennedy, Kenoy	S 6-1	203	11/15/77	1	Arkansas
39	Marshall, Lemar	S 6-2	208	12/17/76	0	Michigan State
47	Clark, Darius	S 5-10	204	04/13/77	0	Duke
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
53	Romanowski, Bill	LB 6-4	245	04/02/66	13	Boston College
57	McDonald, Ricardo	LB 6-2	252	11/08/69	8	Pittsburgh
55	Burns, Keith	LB 6-2	245	05/16/72	7	Oklahoma State
51	Mobley, John	LB 6-1	236	10/10/73	5	Kutztown
57	Berry, Bert	LB 6-3	250	08/15/75	3	Notre Dame
56	Wilson, Al	LB 6-0	240	06/21/77	2	Tennessee
52	Gold, Ian	LB 6-0	223	08/23/78	1	Michigan
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Elam, Jason	K 5-11	200	03/08/70	8	Hawaii
16	Rouen, Tom	P 6-3	225	06/09/68	8	Colorado
2	Lindsey, Steve	K 6-1	185	11/25/74	2	Mississippi

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	24	Middlebrooks, Willie	CB	6-1	200	02/12/79	Minnesota
2	20	Toviss, Paul	DE	6-6	260	02/26/78	Marshall
3	25	Hayward, Reggie	DE	6-4	255	03/14/79	Iowa State
4	18	Hamilton, Ben	CB	6-5	303	08/18/77	Minnesota
4	25	Harris, Nick	POS	6-1	215	07/23/78	California
6	27	Kasper, Kevin	WR	6-0	190	12/23/77	Iowa

*All times Eastern

TOP: TOMASSO DEROSA; BOTTOM: JOHN WILLIAMSON

Have the Raiders already aged out of Super Bowl contention?

Al Davis, the Raiders' managing Svengali, is a professional plaintiff once again, suing the NFL over his claimed Oakland-to-L.A. shuttle. The last time that happened, he neglected his specialty, football, and the team decayed.

Last season the Raiders won their first division title in a decade and now they're already beginning to look like the over-the-hill gang. Quarterback **Rich Gannon** is 35. So is his best receiver, **Tim Brown**, and veteran corner **Eric Allen**. Guard **Steve Wisniewski** is 34. Middle linebacker **Greg Biekert** is a slow 32. Free-agent pass rusher **Trace Armstrong** is also 35.

The Raiders are still a good team, honed to consistent sharpness by coach Jon Gruden. But how will all that age play at the end of the season when they close against Tennessee and then Denver?

Rich gets richer

If Gannon has something left, the Raiders will be a factor to the end. After years of watching others do the playing, Gannon threw for 3,430 yards and 28 touchdowns, but more important was his role as the catalyst for an attack that scored 479 points, third in the NFL. He was the stabilizing figure for a team that needed stabilization. Who knows how far the Raiders would have gone if massive Tony Siragusa of Baltimore hadn't taken that belly flop on Gannon in the AFC championship game?

Oakland had the No. 1 rushing offense in the NFL last year and the Raiders' best chance to reach Super Bowl XXXVI is that the ground game could be even better with the signing of free-agent running back **Charlie Garner**. **Tyrone Wheatley** had a 1,046-yard season for Oakland last year and Garner gained 1,142 for San Francisco, more than twice the retired Napoleon Kaufman's output in his final season. Wheatley averaged 4.5 yards per carry, Garner 4.4. Expect Oakland to run the ball at least the 520 times it did in 2000.

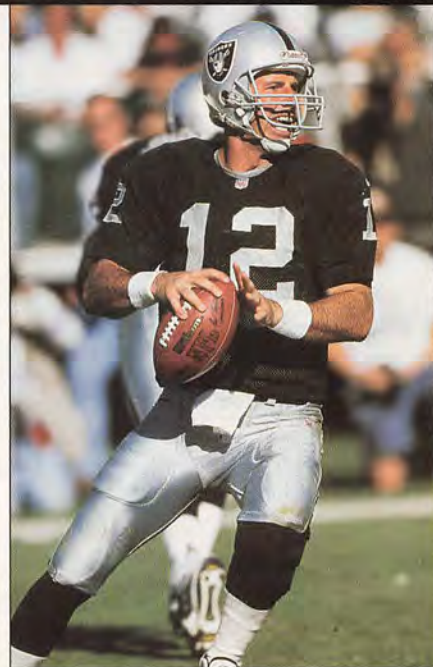
The offensive line is full of road-graders like **Lincoln Kennedy**, the rejuvenated right

tackle; right guard **Mo Collins**, whose switch from tackle made him more efficient; and center **Barrett Robbins**. Wisniewski wouldn't be the first aging offensive lineman to be refreshed by a shot at the Super Bowl. **Matt Stinchcomb** is a corner at left tackle and **Barry Sims** can fill in at guard or tackle. This line is about more than the running attack. Enemy sacks were cut in half last season, from 49 to 28.

Brown had 11 touchdown catches among his 76 receptions last year, but Davis didn't supply Gruden with any reinforcements of note in the passing game. The coach will have to scrounge around for someone to supplement Brown. Ex-Ram **Roland Williams**, known more for his blocking, is the Raiders' new tight end.

The pass defense was down with the bottom-feeders, allowing 25 touchdown passes and ranking 25th in the league. Part of the reason was Oakland's tough run defense, which led to 70 percent of the total yardage allowed by the defense to come via passing. The Raiders need an injection of better linebackers and safeties and some renewed zeal for the top lineman, **Darrell Russell**.

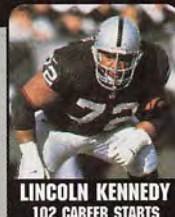
The No. 1 draft pick was used on Florida State safety **Derrick Gibson**, a big guy (6-1, 211) who started every game during the last three seasons for the Seminoles. He was at his best when interested. In the showdown game against Miami last season, he had 13 tackles. Gruden will have to make do with **Anthony Dorsett** at the other safety. Even with Allen at an uncertain age, cornerback is well protected with the spectacular **Charles Woodson** and **Tory James**. Considering the lack of receiving talent, Woodson could take an occasional turn on offense.



Quarterback **Rich Gannon** (top) and wide receiver **Tim Brown** both enter the upcoming season at age 35.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS			NFL RANK	TEAM STATS			NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	361.0	6		TOTAL DEFENSE	328.1	17	
RUSHING	154.4	1		AGAINST RUSH	96.9	5	
PASSING	206.6	15		AGAINST PASS	231.1	25	
SCORING	479	3		PTS. ALLOWED	299	9	
PUNT RETURNS	9.6	16		INTERCEPTIONS	21	6T	
KICK RETURNS	23.9	6		SACKS	43	10	
RED ZONE TD %	58.5	5		TURNOVER DIFF.	+17	3T	



LINCOLN KENNEDY
102 CAREER STARTS



Free-agent pickup Charlie Garner (right) and Oakland's returning leading rusher Tyrone Wheatley both went over 1,000 yards last season.

Aging linebacking corps

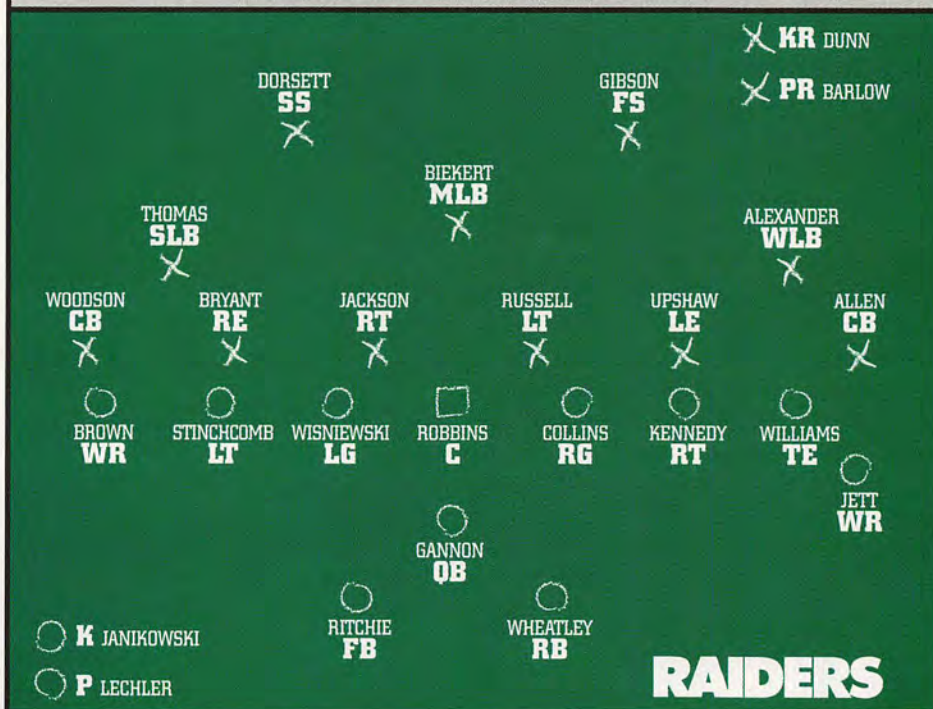
The entire linebacking unit is a senior cast. William Thomas, 32, made some big-time plays, and so did Elijah Alexander. If Biekert doesn't have to move far, he's still a force against the run. No linebacker was drafted.

Since the Raiders get strong, all-around play from ends Tony Bryant and Regan Upshaw, Armstrong, who led the AFC with 16.5 sacks, can be used exclusively to hound the quarterback and won't be worn down.

When the mood is upon him, Russell is the best tackle in the conference. His partner, massive Grady Jackson, had eight sacks and plugs a huge hole.

Sebastian Janikowski missed 10 of 32 field goals and finished 14th in the AFC. That isn't what Davis had in mind when he made him the Raiders' No. 1 draft pick last year. It was softened a tad by the fact his kickoffs allowed Oakland to finish third in the conference in covering those kicks.

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 12, Lost 4

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 9-6	San Diego
09/10	W 38-31	at Indianapolis
09/17	L 24-33	Denver
09/24	W 36-10	Cleveland
10/08	W 34-28 OT	at San Francisco
10/15	W 20-17	at Kansas City
10/22	W 31-3	Seattle
10/29	W 15-13	at San Diego
11/05	W 49-31	Kansas City
11/13	L 24-27	at Denver
11/19	W 31-22	at New Orleans
11/26	W 41-14	Atlanta
12/03	L 20-21	at Pittsburgh
12/10	W 31-7	New York Jets
12/16	L 24-27	at Seattle
12/24	W 52-9	Carolina

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Wheatley	232	1046	4.5	80t	9
Gannon	89	529	5.9	23	4
Kaufman	93	499	5.4	60	0
Jordan	46	213	4.6	43t	3
Crockett	43	130	3.0	11	7
Kirby	11	51	4.6	28	0
Brown	3	12	4.0	7	0
Team	520	2470	4.8	80t	23
Opponents	383	1551	4.0	53	8

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Brown	76	1128	14.8	45	11
Rison	41	606	14.8	49	6
Dudley	29	350	12.1	30	4
Jordan	27	299	11.1	55	1
Ritchie	26	173	6.7	17	0
Jett	20	356	17.8	84t	2
Wheatley	20	156	7.8	17	1
Kaufman	13	127	9.8	25	1
Brigham	13	107	8.2	19	2
Crockett	10	62	6.2	15	0
Dunn	4	33	8.2	14	0
Kirby	3	19	6.3	9	0
Woodson	1	8	8.0	8	0
Porter	1	6	6.0	6	0
Team	284	3430	12.1	84t	28
Opponents	359	3976	11.1	62	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Gannon	473	284	3430	28	11
Hoying	2	0	0	0	0
Team	475	284	3430	28	11
Opponents	588	359	3976	25	21

SACKS

Jackson 8.0, Coleman 6.0, Upshaw 6.0, Bryant 5.5, Johnstone 3.5, Russell 3.0, Taves 3.0, Alexander 2.0, Biekert 2.0, Allen 1.0, Dorsett 1.0, Pope 1.0, Thomas 1.0

Team 43.0, Opponents 28.0

LEFT: JOE ROBBINS; RIGHT: ROCKY WIDNER



Cornerback Charles Woodson (top left) and defensive line stalwarts Darrell Russell and Grady Jackson helped the opportunistic Oakland defense finish third in the NFL in turnover differential (+17).



Punter Shane Lechler, on the other hand, had a great rookie year, finishing second in the NFL with a 45.9-yard average and first with a net average of 38 yards. He should be a Raider fixture. The return game may be improved by the signing of Reggie Barlow, who needs to be refreshed after a couple of subpar seasons in Jacksonville. ■



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Kansas City	1:00
2	9/16	N.Y. JETS	4:15
3	9/23	at Miami	1:00
4	9/30	SEATTLE	4:15
5	10/7	OPEN DATE	
6	10/14	at Indianapolis	8:30
7	10/21	DALLAS	4:15
8	10/28	at Philadelphia	4:15
9	11/5	DENVER	9:00
10	11/11	at Seattle	8:30
11	11/18	SAN DIEGO	4:05
12	11/25	at N.Y. Giants	4:15
13	12/2	ARIZONA	4:15
14	12/9	KANSAS CITY	4:15
15	12/15	at San Diego	4:00
16	12/22	TENNESSEE	9:00
17	12/30	at Denver	4:15

*All times Eastern

OAKLAND RAIDERS

Jon Gruden, head coach

Fred Biletnikoff, wide receivers; Chuck Bresnahan, defensive coordinator; Willie Brown, squad development; Bill Callahan, offensive coordinator/offensive line; Jim Erkenbeck, tight ends; Bob Casullo, special teams; Garrett Giemont, strength and conditioning; Don Martin, quality control/defense; Skip Peete, running backs; Fred Pagac, linebackers; David Shaw, quarterbacks; Mike Waufle, defensive line; Ron Lynn, defensive backs; John Morton, offensive assistant; Aaron Kromer, offensive assistant; Marc Trestman, senior assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Gannon, Rich	QB 6-3	210	12/20/65	12	Delaware
16	Peete, Rodney	QB 6-0	225	03/16/66	11	Southern California
14	Hoying, Bobby	QB 6-3	220	09/20/72	5	Ohio State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Wisniewski, Steve	G 6-4	305	04/07/67	12	Penn State
73	Ashmore, Darryl	G 6-7	310	11/01/69	8	Northwestern
72	Kennedy, Lincoln	T 6-6	335	02/12/71	8	Washington
63	Robbins, Barret	C 6-3	320	8/26/73	6	Texas Christian
68	Hutson, Tony	G 6-3	317	03/13/74	4	Northeastern
62	Treu, Adam	C 6-5	300	06/24/74	4	Nebraska
	Middleton, Frank	G 6-3	334	10/25/74	4	Arizona
71	Parks, Nathan	G 6-5	305	10/24/74	2	Stanford
79	Collins, Mo	G 6-4	325	09/22/76	3	Florida
77	Myles, Toby	T 6-5	320	07/23/75	1	Jackson State
74	Stinchcomb, Matt	T 6-6	310	06/03/77	1	Georgia
65	Sims, Barry	G 6-5	295	12/01/74	2	Utah State
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
42	Kirby, Terry	RB 6-1	213	01/20/70	8	Virginia
28	Jordan, Randy	RB 5-11	215	06/06/70	7	North Carolina
25	Garner, Charlie	RB 5-9	187	02/13/72	7	Tennessee
47	Wheatley, Tyrone	RB 6-0	235	01/19/72	6	Michigan
24	Howard, Chris	RB 5-10	220	05/05/75	3	Michigan
40	Ritchie, Jon	RB 6-1	250	09/04/74	3	Stanford
29	Walker, Corey	RB 5-10	188	06/04/73	1	Arkansas State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
81	Brown, Tim	WR 6-0	195	07/22/66	13	Notre Dame
	Metcalfe, Eric	WR 5-10	188	01/23/68	11	Texas
82	Jett, James	WR 5-10	170	12/28/70	8	West Virginia
85	Mickens, Terry	WR 6-1	200	02/21/71	6	Florida A&M
	Bjornson, Eric	TE 6-4	240	12/15/71	6	Washington
88	Dunn, David	WR 6-3	210	06/10/72	6	Fresno State
	Van Dyke, Alex	WR 6-0	205	07/24/74	5	Nevada
84	Barlow, Reggie	WR 6-0	190	01/22/73	5	Alabama State
	Green, Yatil	WR 6-2	205	11/25/73	1	Miami (FL)
81	Chryplewicz, Pete	TE 6-5	261	04/27/74	3	Notre Dame
86	Williams, Roland	TE 6-5	269	04/27/75	3	Syracuse
87	Brigham, Jeremy	TE 6-6	255	03/22/75	3	Washington
18	McCullough, Andy	WR 6-4	216	11/11/75	1	Tennessee
19	Shannon, Larry	WR 6-4	210	02/02/75	1	East Carolina
84	Porter, Jerry	WR 6-2	220	07/14/78	1	West Virginia
89	Fulcher, Mondriel	TE 6-3	250	10/15/76	1	Miami (FL)
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Armstrong, Trace	DE 6-4	270	10/05/65	12	Florida
91	Upshaw, Regan	DE 6-4	260	08/12/75	5	California
96	Russell, Darrell	DT 6-5	325	05/27/76	4	Southern California
91	Harris, Jon	DE 6-7	292	06/09/74	2	Virginia
90	Jackson, Grady	DT 6-2	325	01/21/73	4	Knoxville
99	Taves, Josh	DE 6-7	280	05/13/72	2	Northeastern
94	Bryant, Tony	DE 6-6	275	09/03/76	2	Florida State
57	Coleman, Roderick	DT 6-2	265	08/16/76	2	East Carolina
92	Ioane, Junior	DT 6-4	320	07/21/77	0	Arizona State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Allen, Eric	CB 5-10	185	11/22/65	13	Arizona State
20	James, Tory	CB 6-2	185	05/18/73	4	LSU
33	Dorsett, Anthony	S 5-11	200	09/14/73	5	Pittsburgh
27	Branch, Calvin	S 5-11	195	05/08/74	4	Colorado State
24	Woodson, Charles	CB 6-1	205	10/07/76	3	Michigan
37	Harris, Johnnie	S 6-2	210	08/21/72	2	Mississippi State
43	Black, Clifton	S 6-0	195	04/11/77	0	Southwest Texas State
39	Jennings, Brandon	S 6-0	195	07/15/78	1	Texas A&M
41	Johnson, Eric	S 6-0	215	04/30/76	1	Nebraska
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Thomas, William	LB 6-2	225	08/13/68	10	Texas A&M
58	Alexander, Elijah	LB 6-2	235	08/02/70	8	Kansas State
54	Biekert, Greg	LB 6-2	255	03/14/69	8	Colorado
91	Phillips, Ryan	LB 6-4	252	02/07/74	4	Idaho
53	Smith, Travian	LB 6-4	240	08/26/75	3	Oklahoma
50	Barton, Eric	LB 6-2	245	09/29/77	2	Maryland
55	Brooks, Bobby	LB 6-2	240	03/03/76	1	Fresno State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Janikowski, S.	K 6-1	255	03/02/78	1	Florida State
9	Lechler, Shane	P 6-2	230	08/07/76	1	Texas A&M

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	28	Gibson, Derrick	S	6-1	218	03/22/79	Florida State
2	28	Tuiasosopo, Marques	QB	6-1	220	03/22/79	Washington
3	27	Grant, DeLawrence	DE	6-2	280	11/18/79	Oregon State
5	27	Perryman, Raymond	S	6-0	204	11/27/78	Northern Arizona
6	21	Cooper, Chris	DE	6-5	270		Nebraska-Omaha
7	28	Combs, Derek	RB	6-0	193	02/28/79	Ohio State
7	29	Rambo, Ken-Yon	WR	6-0	195	10/04/78	Ohio State



AFC WEST

New quarterback, lots of high-profile free agents and a big draft signal new start for Mike Holmgren.

When the Buffalo Bills came to Seattle two days before last Christmas, it seemed like a perfect "Jingle Bells" scenario for the home team, an ideal opportunity to take some of the sting out of a poor season. The Bills had lost four in a row, were about to see both their general manager and coach fired, and their quarterback quandary remained unresolved. They had bumbled their way out of the playoffs and had a cross-country "bah, humbug" plane trip home confronting them.

As it turned out, it was a classic run-for-the-bus game, but not as expected. The spare ribs barbecued the chef, 42-23.



After watching his team conduct a festival of missed tackles and blown coverages, guaranteeing it would end up dead last in NFL defense, Mike Holmgren knew he had to make radical changes. He did. There will be six new defensive starters and a new quarterback. If Holmgren is going to watch miserable football being played, at least he will be coaching fresh faces.

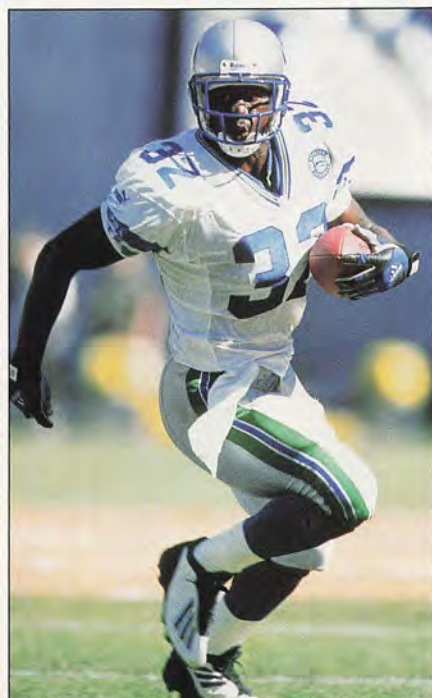
Defense dips into free-agent pool

The new defensive starters will be free agents **Chad Eaton** of New England and **John Randle** of Minnesota at the tackles, **Levon Kirkland** of Pittsburgh at middle linebacker, **Marcus Robertson** of Tennessee at free safety, **Reggie Tongue** at strong safety, and either rookie **Ken Lucas** or pro sophomore **Ike Charlton** at corner.

It will be the task of defensive coordinator Steve Sidwell to meld the old guys with the promising youngsters. Kirkland moves from the 3-4 alignment he played so nobly with the Steelers to the 4-3. Randle can be moved from inside to outside, depending on the situation. Robertson has enough left to direct traffic in the secondary and brings out the best in the kids surrounding him—potential future stars **Shawn Springs** at left corner, either Charlton or Lucas at right corner and Tongue at strong safety.

Considering that the Seahawks surrendered 6,391 total yards, third-highest yield in NFL history, age doesn't really matter in this case. The injection of players from winning

Third-round pick Darrell Jackson became the first rookie since Joey Galloway (1995) to start for the Seahawks.



Despite his advancing age, Ricky Watters turned in his highest per-carry average (4.5) since 1993 last season.

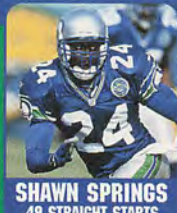
teams—Kirkland, Randle and Robertson, in particular—might even inject some energy into a pass rush that produced a mere 27 sacks despite having such pass rushers as end **Michael Sinclair** and blitzing linebacker **Chad Brown** on the field. Brown and right end **Lamar King** shared the team lead with a paltry six sacks each. Kirkland moves between Brown, his old Steeler teammate, and young **Anthony Simmons**.

Hasselbeck new QB

The rollover on offense may not be as dramatic, but there could be as many changes. The big one was the trade with Green Bay for promising young quarterback **Matt Hasselbeck**. No one backing up Brett Favre gets to play much. Hasselbeck attempted only 19 passes last season for the Packers, completing 10 for 104 yards and a touchdown. Yet Holmgren had seen too much of Jon Kitna and Brock Huard and is ready to chart another course. The one new asset Hasselbeck brings is mobility. He's now in the hands of Jim Zorn, the Seahawks' first star quarterback who is in charge of the position 25 years later.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK	TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	292.5	19	TOTAL DEFENSE	399.4	31
RUSHING	107.5	22	AGAINST RUSH	153.4	28
PASSING	185.0	21	AGAINST PASS	246.1	30
SCORING	320	19	PTS. ALLOWED	405	25
PUNT RETURNS	12.8	5	INTERCEPTIONS	17	13T
KICK RETURNS	24.2	4	SACKS	27	26T
RED ZONE TD %	60.9	2	TURNOVER DIFF.	-9	23T



SHAWN SPRINGS
49 STRAIGHT STARTS



Seattle coaches were mystified last year when talented players like defensive end Michael Sinclair (left) and linebacker Chad Brown produced few big plays, giving the Seahawk defense a rank of dead last in the NFL.

Holmgren took a look at his incumbent wide receivers and said, in effect, "none of the above—except for **Darrell Jackson**." As a rookie Jackson caught 53 passes, averaging 13.5 yards per catch and producing six touchdowns. But the major change was the drafting of **Koren Robinson**, generally considered one of the two best wide receivers in the draft. Robinson, who played just two years at North Carolina State, turns catches into touchdowns. Since there would be an overload of inexperience if Jackson and Robinson do most of the playing with a

beginning starting quarterback, Holmgren was hoping to sign Jerry Rice as a role model and mentor before training camp opened.

Shaun's time to shine

If the running game isn't another area of change by opening day, it should be by mid-season. **Ricky Watters** had another big year, 1,242 rushing yards and 63 catches, but he's 32 and Holmgren has his future, **Shaun Alexander**, in the on-deck circle. Alexander had a better per-carry average (4.9 to 4.5), but

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 0-23	at Miami
09/10	L 34-37	St. Louis
09/17	W 20-10	New Orleans
09/24	W 20-12	at San Diego
10/02	L 17-24	at Kansas City
10/08	L 3-26	at Carolina
10/15	L 24-37	Indianapolis
10/22	L 3-31	at Oakland
10/29	L 19-24	Kansas City
11/05	W 17-15	San Diego
11/12	W 28-21	Jacksonville
11/26	L 31-38	Denver
12/03	W 30-10	at Atlanta
12/10	L 24-31	at Denver
12/16	W 27-24	Oakland
12/23	L 23-42	Buffalo

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Watters	278	1242	4.5	55	7
Alexander	64	313	4.9	50	2
Kitna	48	127	2.6	13	1
Huard	5	29	5.8	10	0
Strong	3	9	3.0	4	0
Brown	3	6	2.0	3	0
Team	403	1720	4.3	55	10
Opponents	503	2454	4.9	80t	20

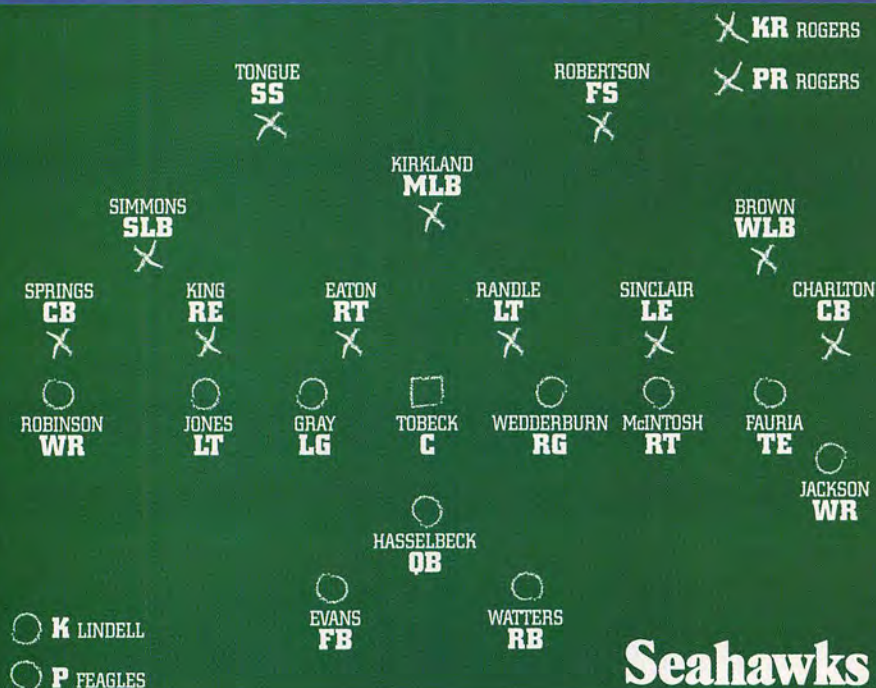
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Dawkins	63	731	11.6	40	5
Watters	63	613	9.7	59	2
Jackson	53	713	13.5	71	6
Mayes	29	264	9.1	40	1
Fauria	28	237	8.5	16	2
Mili	28	288	10.3	34	3
Strong	23	141	6.1	24	1
Williams	8	99	12.4	18	0
Bailey	6	62	10.3	22	1
Alexander	5	41	8.2	18	0
Brown	2	9	4.5	6	0
Team	308	3198	10.4	71	21
Opponents	309	4089	13.2	73	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Kitna	418	259	2658	18	19
Huard	87	49	540	3	2
Brown	1	0	0	0	0
Feagles	1	0	0	0	0
Team	507	308	3198	21	21
Opponents	489	309	4089	23	17

SACKS

Brown 6.0, King 6.0, Simmons 4.0, Sinclair 3.5, Bellamy 2.0, Koonce 1.5, Kennedy 1.0, Williams 1.0
Team 27.0, Opponents 46.0

PROJECTED STARTERS



Seahawks

he got the ball just 64 times. Alexander's carries must increase as a matter of coaching diplomacy and, when that happens, Watters always becomes unhappy. Something has to give.

The strength of the offensive line is in the young tackles, **Walter Jones** on the left side and **Chris McIntosh** on the right. Jones' run blocking is now close to his efficiency as a pass blocker, so whoever gets the ball will be aimed to the left side frequently. The extra first-round pick brings the best guard in college football, **Steve Hutchinson** of Michigan, but he may do a lot of watching as a rookie. That's because **Chris Gray**,



Sixth-year man Reggie Tongue moves into a starter's role at strong safety this season.

the emergency center a season ago, has moved back to left guard with the healing of center **Robbie Tobeck's** knee. **Floyd Wedderburn**, after a year of grooming, has a grip on right guard. Considering the extreme youth of this team, rookie **Heath Evans** of Auburn is expected to join his young peers as the starting fullback. Veteran **Christian Fauria** remains the starting tight end until Holmgren can find someone better.

Surprise return ace **Charlie Rogers** finished in the NFL's top 10 in both kickoff and punt returns, but he also fumbled five times. Another surprise, free-agent rookie kicker **Rian Lindell**, missed just two of 17 field goal attempts and, more impressively, was 10-of-11 from 40 yards or beyond. **Jeff Feagles'** punting was nothing special.

For a team so young and with so many changes, the Seahawks were smiled upon by the scheduler. Five of the first seven games are at home and an open date was thrown into the bargain.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Cleveland	1:00
2	9/16	KANSAS CITY	4:15
3	9/23	PHILADELPHIA	4:15
4	9/30	at Oakland	4:15
5	10/7	JACKSONVILLE	4:05
6	10/14	DENVER	4:15
7	10/21	OPEN DATE	
8	10/28	MIAMI	4:15
9	11/4	at Washington	4:15
10	11/11	Oakland	8:30
11	11/18	at Buffalo	1:00
12	11/25	at Kansas City	1:00
13	12/2	SAN DIEGO	4:05
14	12/9	at Denver	8:30
15	12/16	DALLAS	4:15
16	12/23	at N.Y. Giants	1:00
17	12/30	at San Diego	4:15

*All times Eastern

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Mike Holmgren, head coach

Larry Brooks, defensive line; **Jerry Colquitt**, offensive quality control; **Nolan Cromwell**, wide receivers; **Ken Flajole**, defensive backs; **Gil Haskell**, offensive coordinator; **Kent Johnston**, strength and conditioning; **Johnny Holland**, linebackers; **Clayton Lopez**, defensive quality control/defensive backs; **Tom Lovat**, assistant head coach/offensive line; **Stump Mitchell**, running backs; **Pete Rodriguez**, special teams coordinator; **Jim Zorn**, quarterbacks; **Steve Sidwell**, defensive coordinator; **Jim Lind**, tight ends; **Mark Michaels**, assistant special teams coordinator; **Rod Springer**, assistant strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Hasselbeck, Matt	QB	6-4	220	9/25/75	2 Boston College
	Huard, Brock	QB	6-4	228	4/15/76	1 Washington
5	Brown, Travis	QB	6-3	218	7/17/77	1 Northern Arizona

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
62	Gray, Chris	C	6-4	305	6/19/70	8 Auburn
61	Tobeck, Robbie	C	6-4	298	3/6/70	7 Washington State
63	Beede, Frank	G	6-4	296	5/1/73	4 Panhandle State
71	Jones, Walter	T	6-5	300	1/19/74	4 Florida State
74	Weiner, Todd	T	6-4	300	9/16/75	3 Kansas State
79	Overhauser, Chad	T	6-4	316	6/17/75	0 UCLA
69	Wedderburn, Floyd	G	6-5	333	5/5/76	1 Penn State
52	King, Eric	G	6-4	299	7/27/75	0 Richmond
75	McIntosh, Chris	T	6-6	315	2/20/77	1 Wisconsin
52	Darche, Jean-Philippe	C	6-0	242	2/28/75	1 McGill

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Watters, Ricky	RB	6-1	217	4/7/69	9 Notre Dame
38	Strong, Mack	RB	6-0	235	9/11/71	7 Georgia
34	Brown, Reggie	RB	6-0	244	6/26/73	5 Fresno State
34	Graham, Jay	RB	5-11	215	7/14/75	3 Tennessee
31	Rogers, Charlie	RB	5-9	179	6/19/76	2 Georgia Tech
37	Alexander, Shaun	RB	5-11	218	8/30/77	1 Alabama

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
86	Fauria, Christian	TE	6-4	245	9/22/71	6 Colorado
89	Milli, Itula	TE	6-4	265	4/20/73	3 Brigham Young
83	Bailey, Karsten	WR	5-10	201	4/26/77	2 Auburn
84	French, Rufus	TE	6-3	257	3/15/78	0 Mississippi
82	Jackson, Darrell	WR	6-0	198	12/6/78	1 Florida
88	Williams, James	WR	5-10	180	3/6/78	1 Marshall
85	Hill, James	TE	6-4	246	10/25/74	1 Abilene Christian

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Randle, John	DE	6-1	296	12/12/67	11 Texas A&M-Kingsville
70	Sinclair, Michael	DE	6-4	275	1/31/68	9 Eastern New Mexico
99	LaBounty, Matt	DE	6-4	275	1/3/69	7 Oregon
	Eaton, Chad	NT	6-5	300	4/4/72	5 Washington State
92	King, Lamar	DE	6-3	294	8/10/75	2 Saginaw Valley
90	Cochran, Antonio	DE	6-4	297	6/21/76	2 Georgia
91	Watson, Tim	DT	6-4	290	12/23/74	0 Rowan
95	Hilliard, John	DE	6-2	285	4/16/76	1 Mississippi State
98	Woodard, Cedric	DT	6-2	300	9/5/77	0 Texas

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Robertson, Marcus	S	5-11	205	10/2/69	10 Iowa State
27	Williams, Willie	CB	5-9	180	12/26/70	8 Western Carolina
25	Tongue, Reggie	S	6-0	206	4/11/73	5 Oregon State
24	Springs, Shawn	CB	6-0	195	3/11/75	4 Ohio State
29	Settles, Tawambi	S	6-2	190	1/19/76	1 Duke
21	Vinson, Fred	CB	5-11	180	4/2/77	1 Vanderbilt
22	Miranda, Paul	CB	5-10	184	5/2/76	2 Central Florida
29	Rogers, Chris	CB	5-10	192	1/3/77	1 Howard
23	Charlton, Ike	CB	5-11	205	10/6/77	1 Virginia Tech
33	Kelly, Maurice	S	6-0	176	10/9/72	1 East Tennessee State

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Kirkland, Levon	LB	6-1	270	2/17/69	9 Clemson
94	Brown, Chad	LB	6-2	240	7/12/70	8 Colorado
59	Terry, Tim	LB	6-3	242	7/26/74	2 Temple
51	Simmons, Anthony	LB	6-0	230	6/20/76	3 Clemson
55	Bell, Marcus	LB	6-1	237	7/19/77	1 Arizona
58	Kacyvenski, Isaiah	LB	6-1	250	10/3/77	1 Harvard

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Feagles, Jeff	P	6-1	207	3/7/66	13 Miami (FL)
9	Lindell, Rian	K	6-3	240	1/20/77	1 Washington State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	9	Robinson, Koren	WR	6-1	200	3/19/80	North Carolina State
1	17	Hutchinson, Steve	G	6-5	315	11/1/77	Michigan
2	9	Lucas, Ken	CB	6-0	200	1/23/79	Mississippi
3	20	Evans, Heath	RB	5-11	247	12/30/78	Auburn
4	9	Huff, Orlando	LB	6-2	245	8/14/78	Fresno State
4	32	Fuller, Curtis	S	5-9	187	7/25/78	Texas Christian
4	33	Womack, Floyd	T	6-4	345	11/15/78	Mississippi State
5	9	Bannister, Alex	WR	6-4	205	—	Eastern Kentucky
6	9	Booty, Josh	QB	6-2	221	—	LSU
7	10	Blackmon, Harold	CB	5-11	205	5/20/78	Northwestern
7	22	Norman, Dennis	T	6-4	307	1/26/80	Princeton
7	37	Kocurek, Kris	DT	6-4	280	11/15/78	Texas Tech



Who needs Vick? The Chargers have Tomlinson, Flutie and coach-in-waiting.

The general manager is new. The quarterbacks are new. So is the top running back and the starting cornerbacks. Almost everything about the Chargers is new, including the approach to football.

Life of Riley

So what is Mike Riley still doing in the coach's office? He finished 1-15, worst in the NFL a year ago. He wanted to interview for the vacant job at the University of Southern California, where he once served as the highly admired offensive coordinator. But the Spanos family, which owns the Chargers, said no. Why, is not clear.

Riley's uncomfortable position soils what is otherwise a U-turn on the NFL highway for this team. John Butler, the new GM, wasn't allowed to name his own coach—yet. Norv Turner, browbeaten out of Washington by the Redskins' meddling owner, Daniel Snyder, is now the Chargers' offensive coordinator. To most observers Turner, a superb handler of quarterbacks, is the Chargers' coach-in-waiting. The players know it. They also know that Riley wanted to be at USC. It's another bizarre chapter in San Diego football.

Not so bizarre is what the Chargers did with the first pick in the draft. Whether Butler wanted to use it on Michael Vick or not is beside the point now. The end result was that a team with enormous needs now has the best running back in the draft, **LaDainian Tomlinson**, and its quarterback of the future, **Drew Brees**. Tomlinson should start immediately, while Brees will watch **Doug Flutie** for a season or two.

Flutie is no ordinary 38-year-old, granted. But he'll need every ounce of "Artful Dodger" still left in his body behind the Chargers' undermanned and depleted offensive line. For almost 20 years he's built a reputation for making something out of nothing on the football field and never was that more necessary than it is in San Diego now. Brees may be happy he's not going to play much for at least a year. By then, Butler, who couldn't

cure nearly all the Chargers' ills in one off-season, should be able to go to work on the offensive line.

TCU terror goes West

Not only were the Chargers last in the NFL in running the ball, they were outgained by 21 individual ball carriers. Their average team output rushing per game was 66 yards. In his last two seasons as a collegian, Tomlinson averaged 6.4 yards a carry and scored 40 touchdowns. He may not turn around the San Diego ground game in one season, but he shouldn't do it any harm, either.

Joe Bugel, the offensive line coach, is asked to make chicken salad out of chicken scratch. His only solid starters are left tackle **Vaughn Parker** and center **Roman Fortin**. **Kendyl Jacox**, normally a center, will fill in at right guard. **Ben Coleman** and **Raleigh Roundtree** were still trying to escape via the bargain free-agency route at mini-camp time. There were other priorities in the draft, so Butler didn't get to the offensive line until the fifth round when he selected **Elliot Silvers** of Washington. **Damion McIntosh**, from last year's rookie crop, or **Ed Ellis** will be the right tackle. Fullback **Fred McCrary** will have to block like a guard. No one in the Charger training camp will resemble Tony Boselli.

The Chargers have neglected their wide receivers for years and it shows. There is not much beyond starters **Jeff Graham** and **Curtis Conway**. Considering the passing game's limitations, each had a decent year. Graham averaged 16.5 yards on his 55 catches and Conway 13.4 on 53. When Flutie looks for help in a tight situation, his main rescuer is likely to be **Freddie Jones**, the reliable tight end who led the team with 71 receptions. No



Tight end Freddie Jones (below) and Jeff Graham finished one-two in receptions for the Chargers last season with 71 and 55, respectively.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	268.8	28
RUSHING	66.4	31
PASSING	202.4	18
SCORING	269	26
PUNT RETURNS	6.2	30
KICK RETURNS	21.6	18
RED ZONE TD %	39.5	27

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	309.9	13
AGAINST RUSH	88.9	4
AGAINST PASS	221.1	22
PTS. ALLOWED	440	29
INTERCEPTIONS	16	18T
SACKS	39	16T
TURNOVER DIFF.	-28	31



CURTIS CONWAY
53 RECEPTIONS 5 TDS



The Charger defense, led by All-Pro linebacker Junior Seau (center) and last year's defensive team MVP, safety Rodney Harrison, got a major boost on the interior with the free-agent signing of end Marcellus Wiley (left), who led Buffalo with 10.5 sacks last season.

receivers were drafted, but **Tim Dwight**, on whom Butler insisted being included in the deal with Atlanta for Vick's rights, could turn out to be more than a welcome return man. He caught three touchdown passes for the Falcons in a cameo role last season.

Marvelous Marcellus

Butler's free-agent moves were designed to plug the worst leaks in a defense that allowed 440 points, most in the AFC. Not surprisingly, he signed one of the most desirable

free-agent defenders of all, Buffalo defensive end **Marcellus Wiley**. Butler drafted the ex-Columbia star and nurtured him during his three years as a Bill. Last season he replaced Bruce Smith and led the team with 10.5 sacks. He's also a plus in the dressing room. If **Raylee Johnson** returns strongly, Riley will have a pair of bookend pass rushers. Johnson had 10.5 sacks for the '99 Chargers, then tore up his knee in preseason last year. The tackles are **Jamal Williams** and tough guy **John Parrella**, whom Butler drafted years ago for Buffalo.

PROJECTED STARTERS



CHARGERS

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 1, Lost 15

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 6-9	at Oakland
09/10	L 27-28	New Orleans
09/17	L 10-42	at Kansas
09/24	L 12-20	Seattle
10/01	L 31-57	at St. Louis
10/08	L 7-21	Denver
10/15	L 24-27 OT	at Buffalo
10/29	L 13-15	Oakland
11/05	L 15-17	at Seattle
11/12	L 7-17	Miami
11/19	L 37-38	at Denver
11/26	W 17-16	Kansas City
12/03	L 17-45	San Francisco
12/10	L 3-24	at Baltimore
12/17	L 22-30	at Carolina
12/24	L 21-34	Pittsburgh

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Fletcher	116	384	3.3	21	3
Fazande	119	368	3.1	26	2
Chancey	42	141	3.4	14	2
Leaf	28	54	1.9	14	0
Conway	3	31	10.3	13	0
Bynum	7	26	3.7	9	0
Harbaugh	16	24	1.5	7	0
Moreno	5	20	4.0	13	0
McCrary	7	8	1.1	4	0
Jenkins	8	6	0.8	4	0
Team	351	1062	3.0	26	7
Opponents	470	1422	3.0	49	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jones	71	766	10.8	44	5
Graham	55	907	16.5	83t	4
Conway	53	712	13.4	68t	5
Fletcher	48	355	7.4	26	1
Jones	22	253	11.5	34	0
McCrary	18	141	7.8	19	2
Fazande	16	104	6.5	17	0
Gaylor	13	182	14.0	62t	1
Heiden	6	32	5.3	10	1
Ricks	3	35	11.7	23	0
Bynum	2	13	6.5	7	0
Davis	1	8	8.0	8	0
Chancey	1	6	6.0	6	0
Jacquet	1	25	25.0	25	0
Jenkins	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	311	3540	11.4	83t	19
Opponents	326	3786	11.6	68t	33

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Leaf	322	161	1883	11	18
Harbaugh	202	123	1416	8	10
Moreno	53	27	241	0	2
Chancey	1	0	0	0	0
Team	578	311	3540	19	30
Opponents	552	326	3786	33	16

SACKS	
Parrella 7.0, Harrison 6.0, Mickell 6.0, Dixon 5.0, Fontenot 4.0, Seau 3.5, Dingle 2.5, Beckett 1.0, Dumas 1.0, Lewis 1.0, Rusk 1.0, Williams 1.0	
Team 39.0, Opponents 53.0	

It's a clean sweep at cornerback, where woeful play contributed to an NFL-worst 33 passing touchdowns yielded. Free agents **Ryan McNeil** and **Alex Molden** are the new starters. Strong safety **Rodney Harrison** remains one of the league's toughest hitters. **Rogers Beckett**, the young free safety, should benefit from being surrounded by all that experience.

Junior Seau remains the best defensive player on the team at outside linebacker, but **Carlos Polk**, who may push **Eric Hill** as the middle backer, and **Zeke Moreno**, who comes with a reputation for making plays, are key draftees. **Gerald Dixon** is the other incumbent outside backer.

There is a jump ball to decide who replaces John Carney as the kicker. Punter **Darren Bennett's** 46.2-yard average led the NFL. Dwight can be scary as a returner.

Three of the Chargers' first five games are on the road, but they don't meet a team with a winning 2000 record until Denver comes to town October 21.

Doug Flutie, acquired as the new Charger QB, joins his fourth NFL team at age 38. At right, punter **Darren Bennett** earned his second Pro Bowl selection last season, averaging 46.2 yards per punt.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	WASHINGTON	4:15
WEEK 2	9/16	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 3	9/23	at Dallas	1:00
WEEK 4	9/30	CINCINNATI	4:15
WEEK 5	10/7	at Cleveland	1:00
WEEK 6	10/14	at New England	1:00
WEEK 7	10/21	DENVER	4:05
WEEK 8	10/28	BUFFALO	4:15
WEEK 9	11/4	KANSAS CITY	4:15
WEEK 10	11/11	at Denver	4:05
WEEK 11	11/18	at Oakland	4:05
WEEK 12	11/25	ARIZONA	4:05
WEEK 13	12/2	at Seattle	4:05
WEEK 14	12/9	at Philadelphia	1:00
WEEK 15	12/15	OAKLAND	4:00
WEEK 16	12/23	at Kansas City	1:00
WEEK 17	12/30	SEATTLE	4:15

*All times Eastern

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Mike Riley, head coach

Craig Dickenson, offensive assistant; Mark Banker, defensive assistant/secondary; Joe Bugel, offensive line; Norv Turner, offensive coordinator; Paul Chryst, tight ends; John Hastings, strength and conditioning; Andrew McClave, defensive assistant; Wayne Nunnely, defensive line; Joe Pascale, defensive coordinator; Rod Perry, defensive backs; Bruce Read, special teams; Mike Sanford, wide receivers; Jim Vecchiarella, linebackers; Ollie Wilson, running backs; Michael Johnson, quarterbacks; Mike Schleelein, assistant strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Flutie, Doug	QB 5-10	180	10/23/62	7	Boston College
13	Moreno, Moses	QB 6-1	205	09/05/75	3	Colorado State
15	Dickenson, Dave	QB 5-11	185	01/11/73	0	Montana
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
67	Fortin, Roman	C 6-5	297	02/26/67	10	San Diego State
70	Parker, Vaughn	T 6-3	300	06/05/71	7	UCLA
50	Binn, David	C 6-3	245	02/06/72	7	California
69	Ellis, Edward	T 6-7	330	10/13/75	4	Buffalo
71	Graham, DeMingo	G 6-3	310	09/10/73	2	Hofstra
64	Jacox, Kendyl	G 6-2	330	06/10/75	3	Kansas State
77	McIntosh, Damion	T 6-4	325	03/25/77	1	Kansas State
63	Thomas, Jason	G 6-3	300	06/10/77	0	Hampton
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
41	Fletcher, Terrell	RB 5-8	196	09/14/73	6	Wisconsin
44	McCrory, Fred	RB 6-0	235	09/19/72	4	Mississippi State
35	Fazande, Jermaine	RB 6-0	255	01/14/75	2	Oklahoma
28	Jenkins, Ronney	RB 5-11	188	05/25/77	1	Northern Arizona
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
81	Graham, Jeff	WR 6-2	206	02/14/69	10	Ohio State
80	Conway, Curtis	WR 6-1	196	03/13/71	8	Southern California
87	Jones, Reggie	WR 6-0	195	05/08/71	2	LSU
88	Jones, Freddie	TE 6-5	270	09/16/74	4	North Carolina
	Dwight, Tim	WR 5-8	180	07/13/75	3	Iowa
89	Williams, Rodney	WR 6-0	190	08/15/73	2	Arizona
83	Heiden, Steve	TE 6-5	270	09/21/76	2	South Dakota State
84	Davis, Reginald	TE 6-3	233	09/03/76	2	Washington
82	Gaylor, Trevor	WR 6-3	195	11/03/77	1	Miami (OH)
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
91	Smith, Neil	DE 6-4	270	04/10/66	13	Nebraska
97	Parrella, John	DT 6-3	300	11/22/69	8	Nebraska
99	Johnson, Raylee	DE 6-3	272	06/01/70	7	Arkansas
95	Fontenot, Al	DE 6-4	287	09/17/70	8	Baylor
75	Wiley, Marcellus	DE 6-4	275	11/30/74	4	Columbia
98	Mohring, Mike	DT 6-5	295	03/22/74	4	Pittsburgh
76	Williams, Jamal	DT 6-3	305	04/28/76	3	Oklahoma State
90	Dingle, Adrian	DE 6-3	272	06/25/77	2	Clemson
72	Pringley, Mike	DE 6-4	277	05/22/76	2	North Carolina
96	Carson, Leonardo	DT 6-2	285	02/11/77	1	Auburn
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
47	Jackson, Greg	S 6-1	217	08/20/66	12	LSU
37	Harrison, Rodney	S 6-1	207	12/15/72	7	Western Illinois
25	Molden, Alex	CB 5-10	190	08/04/73	5	Oregon
22	Denton, Tim	CB 5-11	182	02/02/73	3	Sam Houston State
31	Perry, Jason	S 6-0	200	08/01/76	2	North Carolina State
29	Hatcher, Armon	S 6-1	218	07/15/76	1	Oregon State
24	Brown, Fakhir	CB 5-11	192	09/21/77	2	Grambling
42	Beckett, Rogers	S 6-3	205	01/31/77	1	Marshall
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
54	Hill, Eric	LB 6-2	265	11/14/66	11	Louisiana State
55	Seau, Junior	LB 6-3	250	01/19/69	11	Southern California
51	Dixon, Gerald	LB 6-3	250	06/20/79	8	South Carolina
56	Ruff, Orlando	LB 6-3	247	09/28/76	2	Furman
94	Taylor, Shannon	LB 6-3	247	02/16/75	1	Virginia
53	Humphrey, Deon	LB 6-3	240	05/07/76	1	Florida State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Bennett, Darren	P 6-5	235	01/09/65	6	None
7	Richey, Wade	K 6-4	200	05/19/76	3	LSU

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	5	Tomlinson, LaDainian	RB	5-10	222	06/23/79	Texas Christian
2	1	Brees, Drew	QB	6-0	215	01/15/79	Purdue
3	5	Cody, Tay	CB	5-9	175	10/06/77	Florida State
4	17	Polk, Carlos	LB	6-2	256	02/27/77	Nebraska
5	1	Silvers, Elliot	T	6-7	350	02/19/78	Washington
5	8	Moreno, Zeke	LB	6-1	248	10/10/78	Southern California
7	1	Gorin, Brandon	T	6-6	300	07/17/78	Purdue
7	44	Carswell, Robert	S	5-11	215	10/26/78	Clemson



AFC WEST

The coach who wouldn't leave is a long way from a Super Bowl with his new team in Missouri.

Pamphlets should be passed around the NFL with Dick Vermeil's photo on them. "Stop This Man From Coaching Again," they should say.

Less than two years from the day when he tearfully retired as head coach of the Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams, here is America's most compulsive coach, leaving the slippers and pipe and grandchildren at home to move further south in Missouri,

where he'll attempt to play mother hen to the backsliding Chiefs.

Talk about tears.

Here's what

confronts

Vermeil: A

team that

lost six of

its last

eight in

2000, five

consecutive

road games,

doesn't run the

ball well and did

nothing in the off-

season to make

itself measurably

better.

Fullback Tony Richardson was named to Dr. Z's Sports Illustrated All-Pro Team last season after rushing for a career-best 697 yards and catching 58 passes.

Vermeil did trade for **Trent Green**, the quarterback he entrusted with the Rams before Kurt Warner unexpectedly surfaced. But the Chiefs were one of the better passing attacks in the league under the departed Elvis Grbac, and if he had been kept it wouldn't have cost K.C. the first-round pick it sent to the Rams for Green.

High (stepping) Priest

Vermeil signed former Baltimore running back **Priest Holmes**, who lost his job with the Ravens to Jamal Lewis. The coming of Holmes creates a strange situation. **Tony Richardson** was the Chiefs' leading ground-gainer last year. He had just 10 carries more than Holmes did in Baltimore, yet outgained the newcomer by 109 yards; had a better per-carry average, 4.7 yards to 4.3; his longest run was 33 yards opposed to Holmes' 21; and he scored one more touchdown. Richardson also caught 58 passes to Holmes' 32. Now Richardson is nominally the fullback, but Vermeil says he'll also see action as the feature back. Go figure.

Green-er pastures?

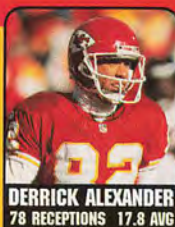
It's difficult to see how the Chiefs' passing game did anything but tread water with the quarterback switch—even though it's comfortable water. Green finished second in the NFL passer ratings last season, but he attempted only 240 throws after replacing the injured Warner. Grbac launched 307 more passes and still landed among the top 10 passers with an 89.9 rating. Green threw for 16 touchdowns with the Rams' high-octane offense. Grbac threw 28.



Two-time Pro Bowler Tony Gonzalez established himself as the most dangerous tight end in the game last season with a franchise-record 93 catches and nine TDs.

Ram quarterbacks don't throw much to their tight ends, but Green better get used to it. He now has the No. 1 pass-catching tight end in the league, **Tony Gonzalez**, who had 93 receptions, 1,203 yards and nine touchdowns for Grbac. He's still K.C.'s No. 1 offensive weapon. **Derrick Alexander** had the best per-catch average in the AFC, 17.8 on his 78 catches, 10 of them for touchdowns. **Sylvester Morris** caught 48 as a rookie and his play suggested even bigger things to come. Another Vermeil trade with the Rams brings **Tony Horne**, who caught only four passes last season but two of them went for touchdowns. He may be the No. 3 receiver in the multiple-set formations Vermeil likes so well.

Vermeil's chances of improving the running game are heightened by the presence of one of the best young tackle tandems—**John Tait** on the left side and **Victor Riley** on the right. **Will Shields'** value at right guard is underlined by his \$7 million signing bonus, but journeyman **Jeff Blackshear** may be replaced by little-used reserve **Marcus Spears**



DERRICK ALEXANDER
78 RECEPTIONS 17.8 AVG

TEAM STATS

		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	350.9	8
RUSHING	91.6	25
PASSING	259.3	5
SCORING	355	9
PUNT RETURNS	8.0	26
KICK RETURNS	20.9	24T
RED ZONE TD %	52.7	12

TEAM STATS

		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	330.0	18
AGAINST RUSH	113.1	17
AGAINST PASS	216.9	20
PTS. ALLOWED	354	19
INTERCEPTIONS	15	21
SACKS	51	4T
TURNOVER DIFF.	+3	11T

on the left side. There will be a scramble to replace retired Tim Grunhard at center. **Casey Wiegmann**, signed as a free agent from the Bears, may inherit the job.

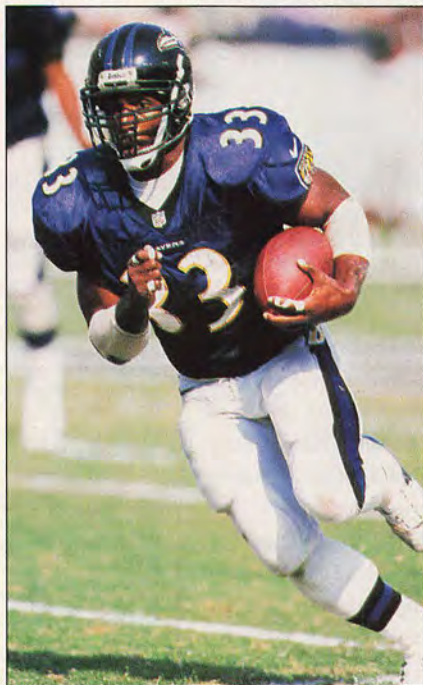
Mr. Robinson's new neighborhood

Greg Robinson, who coordinated Denver's Super Bowl defenses, is the new man under Vermeil. He has a reputation as an aggressive strategist. What he doesn't

have in Kansas City is an overload of talent. The defense was not addressed in free agency and no one on the draft list appears to have the stuff to make an immediate impact. The statistics from 2000 bear out the contention that sacks aren't everything. The Chiefs had 51 and were still mediocre in every other category.

Steve Martin, who plays run pretty well, replaces the departed Chester McGlockton

New coach Dick Vermeil wasted no time putting his stamp on the Chiefs franchise, trading for his former favorite with the Rams, QB Trent Green (left), and signing ex-Raven Priest Holmes as his new power back.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 14-27	Indianapolis
09/10	L 14-17 OT	at Tennessee
09/17	W 42-10	San Diego
09/24	W 23-22	at Denver
10/02	W 24-17	Seattle
10/15	L 17-20	Oakland
10/22	W 54-34	St. Louis
10/29	W 24-19	at Seattle
11/05	L 31-49	at Oakland
11/12	L 7-21	at San Francisco
11/19	L 17-21	Buffalo
11/26	L 16-17	at San Diego
12/04	L 24-30	at New England
12/10	W 15-14	Carolina
12/17	W 20-7	Denver
12/24	L 13-29	at Atlanta

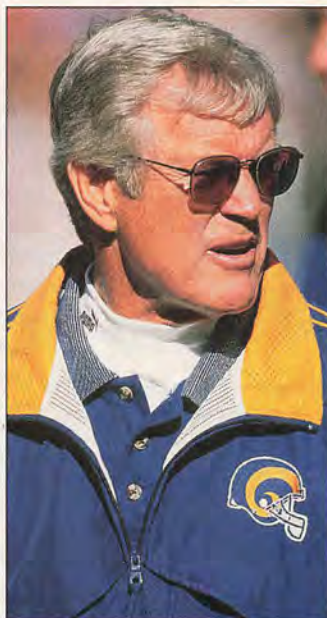
RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Richardson	147	697	4.7	33	3
Anders	76	331	4.4	69	2
Moreau	67	179	2.7	22	4
Grbac	30	110	3.7	22	1
Cloud	30	84	2.8	15t	1
Alexander	3	45	15.0	26	0
Bennett	27	24	0.9	6	1
Moon	2	2	1.0	2	0
Team	383	1465	3.8	69	12
Opponents	441	1822	4.1	50	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Gonzalez	93	1203	12.9	39	9
Alexander	78	1391	17.8	81t	10
Richardson	58	468	8.1	24	3
Morris	48	678	14.1	47	3
Lockett	33	422	12.8	34t	2
Anders	15	76	5.1	12	0
Drayton	8	70	8.8	21	2
Parker	3	41	13.7	27	0
Dunn	2	26	13.0	20	0
Bennett	2	17	8.5	13	0
Cloud	2	16	8.0	13	0
Team	342	4408	12.9	81t	29
Opponents	358	3737	10.4	47	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Grbac	547	326	4169	28	14
Moon	34	15	208	1	1
Morris	1	1	31	0	0
Team	582	342	4408	29	15
Opponent	549	358	3737	25	15

SACKS

Hicks 14.0, Clemons 7.5, D. Williams 7.5, Browning 6.0, McGlockton 4.0, Maslowski 2.0, T. Williams 2.0, Woods 2.0, Bartee 1.0, Bush 1.0, Edwards 1.0, Hasty 1.0, Patton 1.0, Wesley 1.0
 Team 51.0, Opponents 34.0



In just his third year, defensive end Eric Hicks led the Chiefs in sacks with 14. At right, new Kansas City coach Dick Vermeil.

as Dan Williams' tackle partner. Left end Eric Hicks finished third in the AFC with 14 sacks. Duane Clemons is the right end. John Browning backs up at both end and tackle. Two of the first three draftees, Eric Downing of Syracuse and Monty Beisel of Kansas State, were defensive linemen. The linebacking crew of Donnie Edwards, Marcus Patton and Mike Maslowski is an active one.

Corners Pat Dennis and William Bartee learned hard lessons as rookies, but they have to play since there is little else. Eric Warfield got to start a year ago, but he merely demonstrated that he was a reliable nickel back. Jerome Woods is the free safety and Greg Wesley is at strong safety.

The Chiefs rarely try field goals over 40 yards with Todd Peterson. Last year's punter, Todd Sauerbrun, was released and quickly replaced by Atlanta free agent Dan Stryzinski, who signed a five-year deal. Horne, who has returned three kickoffs for touchdowns in the last two years, upgrades that department. The punt return job is open unless Horne is used for both assignments.

2001 SCHEDULE			
WEEK			
1	9/9	OAKLAND	1:00
2	9/16	at Seattle	4:15
3	9/23	N.Y. GIANTS	1:00
4	9/30	at Washington	1:00
5	10/7	at Denver	4:05
6	10/14	PITTSBURGH	1:00
7	10/21	at Arizona	4:05
8	10/28	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
9	11/4	at San Diego	4:15
10	11/11	at N.Y. Jets	1:00
11	11/18	OPEN DATE	
12	11/25	SEATTLE	1:00
13	11/29	PHILADELPHIA	8:30
14	12/9	at Oakland	4:15
15	12/16	DENVER	1:00
16	12/23	SAN DIEGO	1:00
17	12/30	at Jacksonville	1:00

*All times Eastern

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Dick Vermeil, head coach

Terry Shea, quarterbacks; Billy Long, assistant strength and conditioning; Jason Versuzco, offensive assistant/quality control coach; Jeff Hurd, strength and conditioning; Bob Karmelowicz, defensive line; James Saxon, running backs; Charlie Joiner, wide receivers; Al Saunders, assistant head coach/offensive coordinator; Keith Rowen, tight ends; Greg Robinson, defensive coordinator; Pete Giunta, defensive backs; Irv Eatman, assistant offensive line; Frank Gansz, Jr., special teams; Joe Vitt, linebackers; Darvin Wallis, defensive assistant/quality control; Carl Hairston, defensive line; Mike Solari, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
6	Brister, Bubby	QB	6-3	212	08/15/62	14 Northeast Louisiana
10	Green, Trent	QB	6-3	215	07/09/70	3 Indiana
15	Collins, Todd	QB	6-4	226	11/05/71	3 Michigan
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
79	Szot, Dave	G	6-4	289	12/12/67	11 Penn State
68	Shields, Will	G	6-3	321	09/15/71	8 Nebraska
69	Blackshear, Jeff	G	6-6	371	03/29/69	8 Northeast Louisiana
70	Spears, Marcus	T	6-4	319	09/28/71	5 Northwestern State
60	Willis, Donald	C	6-3	351	07/15/73	2 North Carolina A&T
60	Wiegmann, Casey	G	6-3	285	07/20/75	4 Iowa
66	Riley, Victor	T	6-5	341	11/04/74	3 Auburn
76	Tait, John	T	6-6	316	01/26/75	2 Brigham Young
73	Jones, Willie	T	6-7	365	12/17/75	0 Grambling
72	Alford, Darnell	T	6-4	338	06/11/77	1 Boston College
54	Waters, Brian	C	6-3	293	02/18/73	1 North Texas
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
49	Richardson, Tony	RB	6-1	235	12/17/71	6 Auburn
34	Cloud, Mike	RB	5-10	206	07/01/75	2 Boston College
46	Moreau, Frank	RB	6-0	230	09/09/76	1 Louisville
20	Hall, Dante	RB	5-8	187	09/01/78	1 Texas A&M
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
83	Gammon, Kendall	TE	6-4	270	10/23/68	9 Pittsburg State
82	Alexander, Derrick	WR	6-2	205	11/06/71	7 Michigan
89	Dunn, Jason	TE	6-4	259	11/15/73	4 Eastern Kentucky
88	Gonzalez, Tony	TE	6-4	250	02/27/76	4 California
85	Ricks, Mikhael	WR	6-5	237	11/14/74	3 Stephen F. Austin
82	Horne, Tony	WR	5-9	173	03/21/76	3 Clemson
80	Parker, Larry	WR	6-1	206	07/14/76	2 Southern California
	Thomas, Mark	TE	6-4	252	04/26/76	1 North Carolina State
84	Morris, Sylvester	WR	6-3	205	10/06/77	1 Jackson State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
97	Parten, Ty	DE	6-5	282	10/13/69	7 Arizona
92	Williams, Dan	DT	6-4	293	12/15/69	7 Toledo
96	Owens, Rich	DE	6-6	275	05/22/72	5 Lehigh
99	Clemons, Duane	DE	6-5	277	05/23/74	5 California
93	Browning, John	DE	6-4	293	09/30/73	4 West Virginia
90	Martin, Steve	DT	6-4	320	05/31/74	5 Missouri
96	Williams, Tyrone	DE	6-4	292	10/22/72	3 Wyoming
95	Ransom, Derrick	DT	6-3	303	09/13/76	3 Cincinnati
98	Hicks, Eric	DE	6-6	291	06/17/76	3 Maryland
71	McCleary, Norris	DT	6-4	305	05/05/77	1 East Carolina
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
39	Crockett, Ray	CB	5-10	184	01/05/67	12 Baylor
23	Gray, Carlton	CB	6-0	203	06/26/71	8 UCLA
27	Walker, Bracey	S	6-0	205	10/28/70	7 North Carolina
21	Woods, Jerome	S	6-2	198	03/17/73	5 Memphis
20	Allen, Taj	CB	5-10	185	11/06/73	4 Texas
44	Warfield, Eric	CB	6-0	193	03/03/76	3 Nebraska
35	Atkins, Larry	S	6-3	228	07/21/75	2 UCLA
24	Bartee, William	CB	6-1	189	06/25/77	1 Oklahoma
25	Wesley, Greg	S	6-2	202	03/19/76	1 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
41	Dennis, Pat	CB	6-0	208	06/03/78	1 Louisiana-Monroe
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
53	Patton, Marcus	LB	6-2	235	05/01/67	11 UCLA
51	Bush, Lewis	LB	6-2	253	12/02/69	8 Washington State
59	Edwards, Donnie	LB	6-2	228	04/06/73	5 UCLA
99	Jordan, Richard	LB	6-1	256	12/01/74	3 Missouri Southern State
59	Kazadi, Muadianvita	LB	6-2	235	12/20/73	1 Tulsa
56	Stills, Gary	LB	6-2	239	07/11/74	2 West Virginia
57	Maslowski, Mike	LB	6-1	246	07/11/74	2 Wisconsin-La Crosse
52	O'Neal, Andre	LB	6-1	233	12/12/75	1 Marshall
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Stryzinski, Dan	P	6-2	205	05/15/65	11 Indiana
2	Peterson, Todd	K	5-10	177	02/04/70	7 Georgia

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
3	13	Downing, Eric	DT	6-3	305	09/16/78	Syracuse
3	15	Minnis, Marvin	WR	6-0	174	02/06/77	Florida State
4	12	Beisel, Monty	DE	6-3	270	08/20/78	Kansas State
4	13	Layne, George	RB	6-0	245	10/09/78	Texas Christian
5	10	Baber, Billy	TE	6-3	255	01/17/79	Virginia
5	19	Blaylock, Derrick	RB	5-10	190	08/23/79	Stephen F. Austin
6	13	Sulfsted, Alex	T	6-4	305	12/21/77	Miami (OH)
7	12	Harts, Shaunard	S	5-11	195		Boise State
7	43	Sands, Terrell	DT	6-5	301	10/31/79	Chattanooga



Eagles will fly higher than Giants, thanks to continuing emergence of McNabb, return of Staley and the addition of top pick Mitchell.

By Don Pierson, *Chicago Tribune*

The only guarantee is there are no guarantees. Coach Jim Fassel used them up last season and there's no guarantee his New York Giants or any other division winner can repeat.

One thing's for sure: The NFC East is a diminished division without the now-retired Troy Aikman, its quarterback of the '90s.

The Giants did as well as any of their rivals in the offseason battle to keep their nucleus intact and address specific needs. If they can maintain their uncanny mastery over the Eagles, Fassel could find himself in the prediction business again.

Philadelphia Eagles

After going 0-3 against the New York Giants last season (0-9 in the last four years), the Eagles figure to beat Fassel sometime just by the law of averages. The recovery of Duce Staley from a knee injury should help quarterback Donovan McNabb, who didn't need a whole lot of help in a breakout season last year.

The rapid development of No. 1 draft choice Freddie Mitchell of UCLA could mean the difference between a title and another year of building.

New York Giants

The Giants came through everywhere to win the NFC championship. Kerry Collins overcame doubts at quarterback. Tiki Barber became an outstanding runner/receiver. Michael Strahan, Jason Sehorn, Jesse Armstead, Keith Hamilton and Michael Barrow rejuvenated the defense. They stayed healthy. They enjoyed a career season that will be hard to duplicate. They needed stronger play at right defensive end and signed free agent Kenny Holmes from the Titans. They needed help at cornerback and used their first two draft picks to get it.

Washington Redskins

Maybe there is a guarantee. Daniel Snyder will remain impatient and frustrated. After loading up last season to no avail, Snyder has watched his team stagger under the weight of a heavy payroll. Marty Schottenheimer is the latest big name to sign on. If only coaches could play quarterback.

But there are signs that Snyder is backing off and allowing his veteran coach to call the shots, starting with the drafting of Clemson receiver Rod Gardner over Snyder favorite Santana Moss of the University of Miami. Schottenheimer's biggest challenge remains quarterback Jeff George.

Dallas Cowboys

Spoiled by a dozen years with Aikman, Cowboys owner Jerry Jones is about to discover what a rare luxury he enjoyed at the most important position. Jones isn't trying to kid himself or anybody else. He already has warned fans to wait until next year. It's not what coach Dave Campo wants to hear.

The Cowboys are relying on journeyman quarterback Tony Banks to throw bombs to Joey Galloway and Rocket Ismail. He better just hand off to future Hall-of-Famer Emmitt Smith.

Arizona Cardinals

Dave McGinnis is a defensive coach with no defense. The strong, young defensive line the Cardinals tried to build disintegrated in its infancy. McGinnis will try to win on offense, hoping to jump-start quarterback Jake Plummer with better running and receiving. If they finish anyplace but last, McGinnis should get Coach-of-the-Year votes.

The Cardinals are so resigned to rebuilding on defense that they traded away their best defensive player, cornerback Aeneas Williams.

TOP PLAYERS

OFFENSE:
Donovan McNabb, QB
Philadelphia

DEFENSE:
Michael Strahan, DE
New York Giants

NEWCOMER:
Freddie Mitchell, WR
Philadelphia





NFC EAST

Eagles believe they're much more than McNabb and are ready to prove it with a division title.

With all due respect to Jeffrey Lurie, quarterback **Donovan McNabb** owns the Eagles. His running and passing accounted for 76 percent of their offense last year, slightly more than the contributions Jeff Garcia made to the 49ers, Daunte Culpepper to the Vikings and Rich Gannon to the Raiders. McNabb even caught two passes, which is more than the other quarterbacks did. It only seemed like he was coach Andy Reid's leading receiver.

When running back **Duce Staley** went down with a season-ending injury the fifth week, McNabb took up the slack and became the only quarterback to lead his team in

rushing. When the Tampa Bay Buccaneers focused on stopping him in the playoffs, he beat them anyway.

For an encore, the Eagles must find a way to beat the New York Giants. They lost all three games to them last year and their losing streak goes back to 1997, before either Reid or McNabb arrived. Neither can be blamed for it, but both must find a way out.

McNabb clicked in Reid's quarterback-friendly system the way Brett Favre did under him in Green Bay. With more weapons around him, the possibilities are enticing, but the Eagles enter the 2001 season with ifs attached. McNabb's backups are **Koy Detmer** and **Ron Powlus**.

Hoping Duce stays wild

Staley suffered a sprain of a ligament in the right ankle that required surgery and pins, so the Eagles will be keeping fingers crossed that he survives the summer and is ready to roll. They can't afford another season of relying on McNabb to hand off to himself. Veteran **Chris Warren** supplied a break down the stretch but is not the full-time answer. **Cecil Martin** and **Stanley Pritchett** are the fullbacks who hope they are again blocking for Staley.

Addition by subtraction?

Torrance Small caught 40 passes for a 14-yard average and was released. Charles Johnson caught 56 passes, seven for touchdowns, and was released. So Reid is counting

Donovan McNabb finished second behind St. Louis' Marshall Faulk in the voting for NFL Most Valuable Player.



The Eagles are counting on Duce Staley's return to health to lend needed balance to their offense.

on No. 1 draft pick **Freddie Mitchell** of UCLA and last year's second-round pick, **Todd Pinkston**, to emerge quickly. Of all the promising receivers in a draft full of them, Mitchell sounds more confident than any of them, and none of them seem shy.

Despite the perception that he does it all, McNabb spread the ball around better than any other passer in the league, hitting 11 receivers for at least 10 catches apiece. His leading receiver was tight end **Chad Lewis**, who was to the Eagles what Shannon Sharpe was to Baltimore. His 69 catches led all NFC tight ends. The Eagles landed ex-Eagle **James Thrash** from the Redskins to replace Small. They want Mitchell to replace Johnson and they hope Pinkston makes big strides in his second year. Reid cut Johnson to make more room for young **Na Brown**, **Gari Scott** and **Elijah Thurmon** to develop. The backup tight end is **Jeff Thomason**.

The Eagles finally got settled on their offensive line, although high-priced right tackle **Jon Runyan** will have to figure out better ways to handle Giants defensive end Michael Strahan. Left tackle **Tra Thomas**, center **Bubba Miller**



NUMBERS

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK	TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	312.9	17	TOTAL DEFENSE	301.3	10T
RUSHING	117.6	15	AGAINST RUSH	114.4	20
PASSING	195.3	20	AGAINST PASS	186.9	7
SCORING	351	12	PTS. ALLOWED	245	4
PUNT RETURNS	10.2	11	INTERCEPTIONS	19	11T
KICK RETURNS	23.3	7	SACKS	50	6
RED ZONE TD %	50.0	13T	TURNOVER DIFF.	+2	13T



TROY VINCENT
34 CAREER INTERCEPTIONS

and right guard **Jermame Mayberry** are back. Second-year guard **Bobbie Williams** will push left guard **John Welbourn**, who might be a better tackle. **Doug Brzezinski** and **Ryan Schau** are experienced backups. The 6-7, 349-pound Thomas and 6-7, 330-pound Runyan are two of the biggest tackles in the league, perfect bookends for McNabb.

"I want aggressive, mean, tough guys up front because that's where you win football games," says Reid, a former offensive

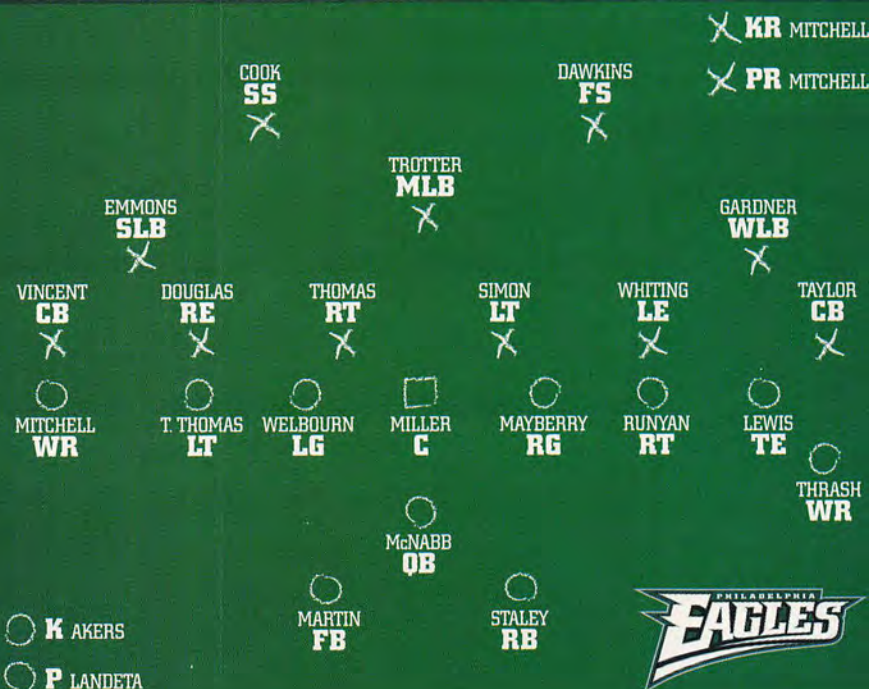
lineman. "I like those types of players on both sides of the ball."

The Eagles added another ex-Eagle, defensive end **N.D. Kalu**, from the Redskins to complement rush end **Hugh Douglas**, who blossomed with 15 sacks last year. **Brandon Whiting** will start at left end and move inside to replace starting tackle **Hollis Thomas** in passing situations. Big things are again expected from tackle **Corey Simon**, who was a standout as a rookie with 9 1/2 sacks.

Free-agent pickup James Thrash (left) and top returning receiver Chad Lewis will be at the top of Donovan McNabb's list of passing options.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 41-14	at Dallas
09/10	L 18-33	New York Giants
09/17	L 3-6	at Green Bay
09/24	W 21-7	at New Orleans
10/01	W 38-10	Atlanta
10/08	L 14-17	Washington
10/15	W 33-14	at Arizona
10/22	W 13-9	Chicago
10/29	L 7-24	at New York Giants
11/05	W 16-13 OT	Dallas
11/12	W 26-23 OT	at Pittsburgh
11/19	W 34-9	Arizona
11/26	W 23-20	at Washington
12/03	L 13-15	Tennessee
12/10	W 35-24	at Cleveland
12/24	W 16-7	Cincinnati

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
McNabb	86	629	7.3	54	6
Staley	79	344	4.4	60	1
Autry	112	334	3.0	15	3
Pritchett	58	225	3.9	16	1
Mitchell	25	187	7.5	85t	2
Martin	13	77	5.9	23	0
Warren	15	42	2.8	11	0
Johnson	5	18	3.6	15	0
Akers	1	15	15.0	15	0
Detmer	1	8	8.0	8	0
Lee	1	2	2.0	2	0
Small	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	397	1882	4.7	85t	13
Opponents	453	1830	4.0	37	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Lewis	69	735	10.7	52	3
Johnson	56	642	11.5	59	7
Small	40	569	14.2	70t	3
Martin	31	219	7.1	26	0
Staley	25	201	8.0	26	0
Pritchett	25	193	7.7	17	0
Autry	24	275	11.5	37	1
Mitchell	13	89	6.8	21	1
Pinkston	10	181	18.1	45	0
Broughton	12	104	8.7	21	0
Thomason	10	46	4.6	11	5
Brown	9	80	8.9	18	1
McNabb	2	5	2.5	3	0
Lee	1	20	20.0	20	0
Douglas	1	9	9.0	9	0
Miller	1	9	9.0	9	0
Dyke	1	8	8.0	8	0
Warren	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	331	3386	10.2	70t	21
Opponents	314	3281	10.4	70t	11

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
McNabb	569	330	3365	21	13
Mitchell	4	1	21	0	0
Detmer	1	0	0	0	1
Small	1	0	0	0	1
Team	575	331	3386	21	15
Opponents	552	314	3281	11	19

SACKS	
Douglas 15.0, Simon 9.5, Mamula 5.5, Thomas 4.0, Grasmanis 3.5, Whiting 3.5, Trotter 3.0, Dawkins 2.0, Gardner 1.0, Vincent 1.0	
Team 50.0, Opponents 45.0	



Defensive tackle Corey Simon (left), who broke the Eagles' rookie record for sacks last season, and linebacker Jeremiah Trotter make the Philly defense strong up the middle.

Paul Grasmanis backs him up. Greg Jefferson is returning from a knee injury as a backup end and third-round draft choice Derrick Burgess has similar credentials as Douglas when he came into the league.

The re-signing of middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter solidified a strong area, with Barry Gardner and Carlos Emmons flanking leading tackler and Pro Bowler Trotter. Ike Reese and Mike Caldwell are backups and Reid drafted promising Quinton Caver in the second round and athletic Markus Steele in the fourth.

Secondary to none

The secondary is so solid and athletic with corners Troy Vincent and Bobby Taylor and safeties Damon Moore and Brian Dawkins that Reid proclaims it second to none in the league. Vincent has 12 interceptions in the last two seasons. Backups are Jason Bostic, Al Harris, Rashard Cook, William Hampton and Tim Hauck.

Ageless Brian Mitchell returns as the return specialist. Placekicker David Akers is coming off a breakthrough year. The Eagles hope punter Sean Landeta remains ageless.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	ST. LOUIS	4:15
2	9/16	at Tampa Bay	1:00
3	9/23	at Seattle	4:15
4	9/30	DALLAS	8:30
5	10/7	ARIZONA	1:00
6	10/14	OPEN DATE	
7	10/22	at N.Y. Giants	9:00
8	10/28	OAKLAND	4:15
9	11/4	at Arizona	4:05
10	11/11	MINNESOTA	4:15
11	11/18	at Dallas	1:00
12	11/25	WASHINGTON	1:00
13	11/29	at Kansas City	8:30
14	12/9	SAN DIEGO	1:00
15	12/16	at Washington	1:00
16	12/22	at San Francisco	1:00
17	12/30	N.Y. GIANTS	4:05

*All times Eastern

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Andy Reid, head coach

Tommy Brasher, defensive line; Juan Castillo, offensive line; Brad Childress, quarterbacks; Dave Culley, wide receivers; Rod Dowhower, offensive coordinator; Leslie Frazier, defensive backs; John Harbaugh, special teams; Jim Johnson, defensive coordinator; Tom Kanavy, assistant strength and conditioning; Tom Melvin, offensive assistant/quality control; Ron Rivera, linebackers; Pat Shurmur, tight ends/assistant offensive line; Steve Spagnuolo, defensive assistant/quality control; Ted Williams, running backs; Mike Wolf, strength and conditioning; Dave Toub, special teams/quality control; Sean McDermott, defensive assistant/quality control

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Powlus, Ron	QB	6-1	225	07/16/74	0 Notre Dame
10	Detmer, Koy	QB	6-1	195	07/05/73	3 Colorado
5	McNabb, Donovan	QB	6-2	226	11/25/76	2 Syracuse

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Mayberry, Jermaine	G	6-4	325	08/29/73	5 Texas A&M
69	Runyan, Jon	T	6-7	330	11/27/73	5 Michigan
65	Miller, Bubba	C	6-1	305	01/24/73	4 Tennessee
72	Thomas, Tra	T	6-7	349	11/20/74	3 Florida State
74	Brzezinski, Doug	G	6-4	305	03/11/76	2 Boston College
76	Welbourn, John	G	6-5	318	03/30/76	2 California
71	Wong, Joe	G	6-6	315	02/24/76	0 Brigham Young
67	Schau, Ryan	T	6-6	300	12/30/75	2 Illinois
66	Williams, Bobbie	G	6-3	320	09/25/76	0 Arkansas
63	Romero, John	T	6-3	326	10/03/76	0 California
63	Fraley, Hank	G	6-2	300	09/21/77	0 Robert Morris

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
30	Mitchell, Brian	RB	5-10	221	08/18/68	11 Southwestern Louisiana
27	Bostic, James	RB	5-11	225	03/13/72	2 Auburn
36	Pritchett, Stanley	RB	6-1	240	12/12/73	5 South Carolina
22	Staley, Duce	RB	5-11	220	02/27/75	4 South Carolina
24	Autry, Darnell	RB	5-10	210	06/19/76	2 Northwestern
38	Martin, Cecil	RB	6-0	235	07/08/75	2 Wisconsin
33	Hamner, Thomas	RB	6-0	197	12/25/76	0 Minnesota

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Bartrum, Mike	TE	6-4	245	06/23/70	7 Marshall
89	Lewis, Chad	TE	6-6	252	10/05/71	4 Brigham Young
	Thrash, James	WR	6-0	200	04/28/75	4 Missouri Southern State
82	Douglas, Dameane	WR	6-0	195	03/15/76	2 California
85	Brown, Na	WR	6-0	196	02/22/77	2 North Carolina
87	Pinkston, Todd	WR	6-2	170	04/23/77	1 Southern Mississippi
86	Scott, Gari	WR	6-0	191	06/02/78	0 Michigan State

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
53	Douglas, Hugh	DE	6-2	280	08/23/71	6 Central State
79	Jefferson, Greg	DE	6-3	280	08/31/71	5 Central Florida
78	Thomas, Hollis	DT	6-0	306	01/10/74	5 Northern Illinois
72	Kalu, N.D.	DE	6-3	246	08/03/75	4 Rice
98	Whiting, Brandon	DE	6-3	285	07/30/76	3 California
91	Hamiter, Uhuru	DE	6-4	280	03/14/73	2 Delaware State
90	Simon, Corey	DT	6-2	293	03/02/77	1 Florida State
97	Walker, Darwin	DT	6-3	294	06/15/77	1 Tennessee
91	Frank, John	DE	6-4	280	07/01/74	0 Utah
62	Johnson, Dwight	DE	6-4	285	01/30/77	1 Baylor

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Vincent, Troy	CB	6-1	200	06/08/71	9 Wisconsin
21	Taylor, Bobby	CB	6-3	216	12/28/73	6 Notre Dame
20	Dawkins, Brian	S	5-11	200	10/13/73	5 Clemson
31	Harris, Al	CB	6-1	185	12/07/74	3 Texas A&M-Kingsville
43	Moore, Damon	S	5-11	215	09/15/76	2 Ohio State
42	Cook, Rashard	S	5-11	197	04/18/77	2 Southern California
32	Bostic, Jason	S	5-9	181	06/03/76	2 Georgia Tech

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
56	Caldwell, Mike	LB	6-2	237	08/31/71	8 Middle Tennessee State
51	Emmons, Carlos	LB	6-5	250	09/03/73	5 Arkansas State
58	Resse, Ike	LB	6-2	222	10/16/73	3 Michigan State
54	Trotter, Jeremiah	LB	6-0	261	01/20/77	3 Stephen F. Austin
52	Gardner, Barry	LB	6-0	248	12/13/76	2 Northwestern

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Landeta, Sean	P	6-0	215	01/06/62	16 Towson State
2	Akers, David	K	5-10	200	12/09/74	3 Louisville

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	25	Mitchell, Freddie	WR	5-11	187	11/28/78	UCLA
2	24	Caver, Quinton	LB	6-4	227	08/22/78	Arkansas
3	1	Burgess, Derrick	DE	6-2	254	08/12/78	Mississippi
4	26	Buckhalter, Correll	RB	5-11	228	10/06/78	Nebraska
5	16	Stewart, Tony	TE	6-5	255	08/09/79	Penn State
5	24	Feeley, A.J.	QB	6-3	220	05/16/77	Oregon

Giants have key pieces back in place, with supplements, for realistic run at a return trip to the Super Bowl.

Upgrading a Super Bowl team is a daunting task. Achieving a Super Bowl is hard enough. Maintaining a high level of play is harder. Improving is hardest of all. The Giants think they have done it by keeping their most important free agents and adding players at key positions.



Despite not making the Pro Bowl for the first time in four years, Michael Strahan had a solid 2000 season with 9.5 sacks.

The good offseason fortune of coach Jim Fassel began with his own four-year, \$11 million contract extension and the news that defensive coordinator John Fox would return. Left out of most job interviews by the Giants' Super Bowl run, Fox had no choice but to come back and try harder to climb from No. 2 to No. 1.

With young offensive coordinator Sean Payton also back, Fassel will be directing a familiar cast in an effort to prove last season was no fluke. To keep the nucleus of the NFC champions intact, the Giants re-signed versatile running back/receiver **Tiki Barber** and solid cornerback **Jason Sehorn**, then decided

their No. 1 draft choice of five years ago, defensive end **Cedric Jones**, was no longer good enough to do the job required. They signed defensive end **Kenny Holmes** from the Tennessee Titans in hopes he can become a more productive counterpart to the star of the defense, **Michael Strahan**.

Kerry-ing forward

All this is designed to maintain a degree of comfort around quarterback **Kerry Collins**, whose welcome emergence last season took a wrong turn in the Super Bowl loss to Baltimore but cannot be allowed to regress. Collins appears on the verge of bigger things than most experts expected from him, and one bad Super Bowl experience shouldn't deter the Giants from their path.

Collins came up big more times than not, and his patient and classy performances during grueling pre-Super Bowl press conferences demonstrated a maturity that almost made the loss palatable. With alcohol abuse behind him, Collins showed he can handle pressure. The reliable **Jason Garrett** returns as the backup, with draft choice **Jesse Palmer** a future possibility.

Barber on duty

Barber looked like the Giants' answer to the Rams' Marshall Faulk with his ability not only to run and catch but to endure. Only 195 pounds, Barber stayed healthy most of the year, then played with a cast on a broken forearm during the playoffs. He was helped by rookie **Ron Dayne**, who is expected to improve his conditioning this season and take more of the

load off Barber as the Giants continue to emphasize the play-action attack. If fullback **Greg Comella** gets Dayne to share his work-outs the way Barber did, Fassel will be happy.

Collins developed enviable rapport with both starting wide receivers, **Amani Toomer** and **Ike Hilliard**, hitting Toomer for seven touchdown passes and Hilliard for eight. The Giants would like to get more from third receiver **Joe Jurevicius** and they hope speedy second-year prospect **Ron Dixon** can develop into more than a return specialist. They also need more from the tight end position, where **Howard Cross** and **Dan Campbell** reside.



Tiki Barber set a franchise record with 2,089 all-purpose yards last season.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	336.0 13
RUSHING	125.6 11
PASSING	210.4 13
SCORING	328 15
PUNT RETURNS	8.3 25
KICK RETURNS	20.8 26
RED ZONE TD %	54.3 8T

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	284.1 5
AGAINST RUSH	72.3 2
AGAINST PASS	211.9 16
PTS. ALLOWED	246 5
INTERCEPTIONS	20 9T
SACKS	44 31
TURNOVER DIFF.	+7 9



IKE HILLIARD
55 CATCHES 8 TDs



QB Kerry Collins (left) proved durable, throwing each of New York's 529 passes last season, while rookie power back Ron Dayne registered the second-highest rushing total ever for a Giants rookie with 770 yards.

The surprise of last season was how the rebuilt offensive line jelled into such a cohesive and capable unit, but it's time to worry about the future of 38-year-old left tackle **Lomas Brown**, who can't last forever at such a demanding position. Right tackle **Luke Petitgout** was Brown's backup last year, so the prospects are thin, especially if **Mike Rosenthal** doesn't continue to improve as the future right tackle. Guards **Glenn Parker**

and **Ron Stone** and center **Dusty Zeigler** are solid inside, with **Derek Engler** and **Jason Whittle** the backups.

On defense, Holmes is expected to complement Strahan the way he complemented Jevon Kearse in Tennessee, where he registered eight sacks last season. Jones had only 3 1/2 in New York, not enough from the right side. Fox expects second-year tackle **Cornelius Griffin** to start beside **Keith Hamilton**, giving the

PROJECTED STARTERS



GIANTS

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 12, Lost 4

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 21-16	Arizona
09/10	W 33-18	at Philadelphia
09/17	W 14-7	at Chicago
09/24	L 6-16	Washington
10/01	L 14-28	at Tennessee
10/08	W 13-6	at Atlanta
10/15	W 19-14	Dallas
10/29	W 24-7	Philadelphia
11/05	W 24-3	at Cleveland
11/12	L 24-38	St. Louis
11/19	L 21-31	Detroit
11/26	W 31-7	at Arizona
12/03	W 9-7	at Washington
12/10	W 30-10	Pittsburgh
12/17	W 17-13	at Dallas
12/23	W 28-25	Jacksonville

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Barber	213	1006	4.7	78t	8
Dayne	228	770	3.4	50	5
Toomer	5	91	18.2	28	1
Collins	41	65	1.6	15	1
Comella	10	45	4.5	16	0
Hilliard	3	19	6.3	17	0
Dixon	2	13	6.5	12	0
Montgomery	1	4	4.0	4t	1
Team	507	2009	4.0	78t	16
Opponents	359	1156	3.2	44t	7

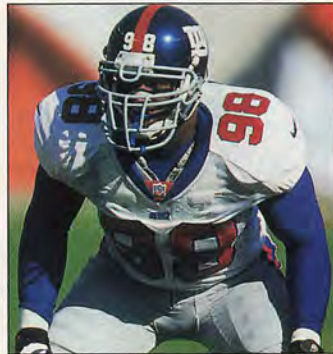
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Toomer	78	1094	14.0	54t	7
Barber	70	719	10.3	36	1
Hilliard	55	787	14.3	59	8
Comella	36	274	7.6	25	0
Mitchell	25	245	9.8	22	1
Jurevicius	24	272	11.3	43	1
Campbell	8	45	5.8	13	3
Dixon	6	92	15.3	34t	1
Cross	4	30	7.5	18	0
Dayne	3	11	3.7	12	0
Davis	2	40	20.0	27	0
Team	311	3610	11.6	59	22
Opponents	327	3669	11.2	53	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Collins	529	311	3610	22	13
Team	529	311	3610	22	13
Opponents	585	327	3669	23	20

SACKS

Hamilton 10.0, Strahan 9.5, Armstead 5.0, Griffin 5.0, Barrow 3.5, Jones 3.5, Monty 2.0, Phillips 1.5, Garnes 1.0, McDaniel 1.0, Peter 1.0

Team 44.0, Opponents 28.0



Amani Toomer (left) went over 1,000 yards receiving for the second straight season, while Jessie Armstead was selected to play in this fourth straight Pro Bowl.

Giants a front four comparable to New Orleans and Tampa Bay in the NFC. The Giants chose Holmes over free agent Simeon Rice partly because of his ability to play the run. Hamilton is coming off a great year marred only by a Pro Bowl snub. He had 10 sacks, beating out Strahan by a half. The backups are **Ryan Hale**, **Jeremiah Parker** and **George Williams**.

Busy backers

Linebacker **Jesse Armstead** remains the soul of the team, the kind of player who won't let others slack following a short offseason. With middle linebacker **Micheal Barrow**, Fox has two of the more active tacklers in the business. Second-year prospect **Brandon Short** will replace departed free agent **Ryan Phillips**. **Pete Monty**, **Jack Golden** and **Kevin Lewis** are in reserve.

Sehorn remains the key to the secondary despite getting burned for the first touchdown in the Super Bowl. **Dave Thomas** was a pleasant surprise on the other side, but the Giants were so determined to upgrade they spent their first two draft picks on corners **Will Allen** and **William Peterson**, trading up for the first time in their history for Allen. Strong safety **Sam Garnes** and free safety **Shaun Williams** return. The backups are **Reggie Stephens**, **Emmanuel McDaniel**, **Lyle West** and **Omar Stoutmire**.

The Giants let punter **Brad Maynard** go to Chicago after his production slipped. He will be replaced by **Rodney Williams**. **Dixon** is outstanding as a kick return man. **Barber** spreads himself thin as a punt returner. **John Markham** was drafted to challenge **Jaret Holmes** as the replacement for kicker **Brad Daluiso**.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/10	at Denver	9:00
2	9/16	GREEN BAY	1:00
3	9/23	at Kansas City	1:00
4	9/30	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
5	10/7	WASHINGTON	1:00
6	10/14	at St. Louis	1:00
7	10/22	PHILADELPHIA	9:00
8	10/28	at Washington	8:30
9	11/4	DALLAS	1:00
10	11/11	at Arizona	4:15
11	11/19	at Minnesota	9:00
12	11/25	OAKLAND	4:15
13	12/2	OPEN DATE	
14	12/9	at Dallas	1:00
15	12/15	ARIZONA	12:30
16	12/23	SEATTLE	1:00
17	12/30	at Philadelphia	4:05

*All times Eastern

NEW YORK GIANTS

Jim Fassel, head coach

Jim Skipper, assistant head coach; **Sean Payton**, offensive coordinator; **Dave Brazil**, defensive quality control; **Tom Olivadotti**, linebackers; **John Dunn**, strength and conditioning; **John Fox**, defensive coordinator; **Mike Gillhamer**, offensive assistant; **Johnnie Lynn**, defensive backs; **Fred von Appen**, special teams; **Denny Marcini**, defensive line; **Jim McNally**, offensive line; **Michael Pope**, tight ends; **Jimmy Robinson**, wide receivers; **Craig Stoddard**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Jay Robertson**, offensive quality control; **Eric Stutesville**, running backs

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Garrett, Jason	QB	6-2	200	03/28/66	8 Princeton
5	Collins, Kerry	QB	6-5	245	12/03/72	6 Penn State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
62	Parker, Glenn	G	6-5	312	04/22/66	11 Arizona
76	Brown, Lomas	T	6-4	280	03/30/63	16 Florida
65	Stone, Ron	G	6-5	320	07/20/71	7 Boston College
52	Zeigler, Dusty	C	6-5	305	09/27/73	5 Notre Dame
66	Whittle, Jason	G	6-4	305	03/07/75	3 Southwest Missouri State
77	Petitgout, Luke	T	6-6	310	06/16/76	2 Notre Dame
78	Rosenthal, Mike	G	6-7	315	06/10/77	2 Notre Dame
74	Ziemann, Chris	T	6-7	315	09/20/76	1 Michigan
67	Bober, Chris	T	6-5	305	12/24/76	0 Nebraska-Omaha
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Barber, Tiki	RB	5-10	195	04/07/75	4 Virginia
34	Comella, Greg	RB	6-1	248	07/29/75	3 Stanford
33	Montgomery, Joe	RB	5-10	230	06/08/76	2 Ohio State
44	Bennett, Sean	RB	6-1	230	11/09/75	1 Northwestern
27	Dayne, Ron	RB	5-10	253	03/14/78	1 Wisconsin
29	Washington, Damon	RB	5-11	193	02/20/77	1 Colorado State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
87	Cross, Howard	TE	6-5	270	08/08/67	12 Alabama
81	Toomer, Amani	WR	6-3	208	09/08/74	5 Michigan
88	Hilliard, Ike	WR	5-11	195	04/05/76	4 Florida
84	Jurevicius, Joe	WR	6-5	230	12/23/74	3 Penn State
89	Campbell, Daniel	TE	6-5	260	04/13/76	2 Texas A&M
86	Dixon, Ron	WR	6-0	190	05/28/76	1 Lambuth
82	Davis, Thabiti	WR	6-2	205	03/24/75	1 Wake Forest
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
75	Hamilton, Keith	DT	6-6	295	05/25/71	9 Pittsburgh
92	Strahan, Michael	DE	6-5	275	11/21/71	8 Texas Southern
99	Holmes, Kenny	DE	6-4	270	10/24/73	4 Miami (FL)
93	Hale, Ryan	DT	6-4	300	07/10/75	2 Arkansas
97	Griffin, Cornelius	DT	6-3	300	12/03/76	1 Alabama
79	Parker, Jeremiah	DE	6-5	250	11/15/77	1 California
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
41	Thomas, Dave	CB	6-3	218	08/25/68	8 Tennessee
31	Sehorn, Jason	CB	6-2	215	04/15/71	6 Southern California
26	McDaniel, Emmanuel	CB	5-9	180	07/27/72	4 East Carolina
20	Garnes, Sam	S	6-3	225	07/12/74	4 Cincinnati
36	Williams, Shaun	S	6-2	215	10/10/76	3 UCLA
37	West, Lyle	S	6-0	215	12/20/76	2 San Jose State
28	Stephens, Reggie	CB	5-9	200	02/21/75	2 Rutgers
22	Brown, Ralph	CB	5-10	185	09/09/78	1 Nebraska
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Armstead, Jessie	LB	6-1	240	10/26/70	8 Miami (FL)
58	Barrow, Michael	LB	6-2	240	04/19/70	8 Miami (FL)
53	Short, Brandon	LB	6-3	255	07/11/77	1 Penn State
55	Jones, Dhani	LB	6-1	240	02/22/78	0 Michigan
90	Golden, Jack	LB	6-1	240	01/28/77	1 Oklahoma State
59	Lewis, Kevin	LB	6-1	230	10/06/78	1 Duke
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Williams, Rodney	P	6-0	178	04/25/77	0 Georgia Tech
2	Holmes, Jaret	K	6-0	209	03/03/76	2 Auburn

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	22	Allen, Will	CB	5-10	198	08/05/78	Syracuse
3	16	Peterson, Will	CB	6-0	197	06/15/79	Western Illinois
4	19	Scott, Cedric	DE	6-5	281	10/19/77	Southern Mississippi
4	30	Palmer, Jesse	QB	6-2	227	10/05/78	Florida
5	29	Markham, John	K	6-1	212	04/27/79	Vanderbilt
5	31	Carter, Jonathan	WR	5-11	180	03/20/79	Troy State
7	30	Kolodziej, Ross	DE	6-2	290	05/11/78	Wisconsin



Stephen Davis (top) finished third in the NFC in rushing; veteran Darrell Green has his eye on a starting spot at age 41.

Snyder hopes Schottenheimer's old school can bring Redskins' grades up.

About 100 Redskins employees, not counting players, have either been fired or walked out of the Daniel Snyder regime. After spending nearly \$100 million on last year's payroll (not counting office staff) and getting only eight wins, Snyder is discovering that the football business is different. You can scheme, spend and dictate all you want, but you cannot control what happens on Sundays. That's why more people pay to watch football than pay to watch IBM executives sit at computer screens.

Now Snyder is trying to salvage a disaster by hiring an old-school coach, Marty Schottenheimer, and giving him more say than he ever allowed fired Norv Turner to have. If Snyder has learned anything in his short tenure, it is that he indeed needs expert advice.

While working last season as a television commentator, Schottenheimer doubted he could work for a meddler like Snyder, but a \$10 million contract helped change his impression.

Offense, by George

Whether Schottenheimer can coexist with quarterback **Jeff George** is a more important and problematic issue. A conservative by nature, Schottenheimer does not have a track record of winning with fly-by-night, throw-it-deep passers like the talented-but-tainted George. Offensive coordinator Jimmy Raye likes a more controlled West Coast-style passing game, and if George can't get used to handing off to **Stephen Davis**, the Redskins will find a quarterback who likes to do what he is told, such as Super Bowl winner Trent Dilfer. Second-year man **Todd Husak** might find himself pushing George, and fourth-round draft pick **Sage Rosenfels** might suddenly get more notice.

Even (keel) Stephen

Davis is one of the few certainties surrounding the Redskins in 2001, and he is a good place for Schottenheimer to start. Always partial to the running game, Schottenheimer spent the final years of his tenure in Kansas City searching for somebody like Davis. Coming off seasons of 1,400 and 1,300 yards, Davis has established himself as a premier workhorse. Skip Hicks and workhorse receiver/fullback Larry Centers were released, and Schottenheimer hired an old favorite from Kansas City, **Donnell Bennett**.

After losing solid receiver James Thrash to Philadelphia, old receiver Irving Fryar to age and flaky receiver Albert Connell to New Orleans, the Redskins were left with question mark **Michael Westbrook** coming off a knee injury and untested second-year prospect **Derrius Thompson**. So a receiver was crucial in the draft and Schottenheimer picked Clemson's **Rod Gardner** over Snyder favorite Santana Moss and added **Darnerian McCants** in the fifth round. He also added ex-Chief **Kevin Lockett**. Tight end **Stephen Alexander** is the top returning receiver, but George ordinarily likes to throw deeper than tight ends. **Zeron Flemister** is promising at tight end and **Walter Rasby** was added for depth there. Among the talented crop of receivers in the draft, Gardner was compared most to Cris Carter—not a bad recommendation.

Tackles **Chris Samuels** and **Jon Jansen** are two of the best young bookends in the business, but the rest of the offensive line is in flux. Guards Tre Johnson and Keith Sims (both since released) and center **Cory Raymer** all got hurt, leaving the middle of the line to second-year man **Michael Moore**, journeyman **Jay Leeuwenburg** and reserve **Mark Fischer**. Moore or **Derrick Fletcher** could start at right guard, and Carolina pickup **Matt Campbell** will start at left guard, but Schottenheimer is taking applications.

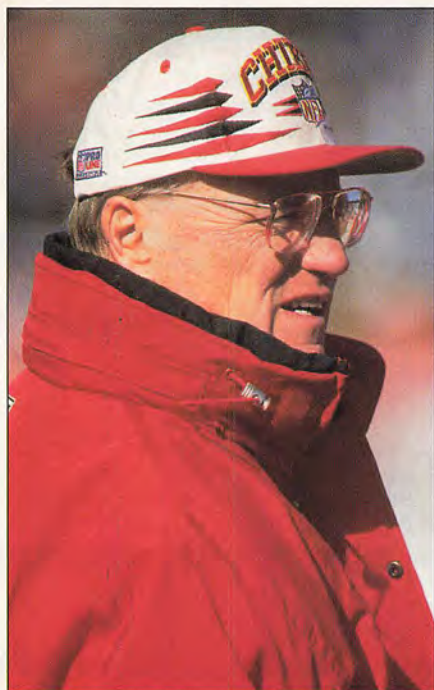
The Redskins spent a lot of money on defense both under Snyder and previously, only for naught. Although the ranking jumped from

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	337.3	11
RUSHING	109.3	19
PASSING	228.0	10
SCORING	281	24
PUNT RETURNS	9.9	15
KICK RETURNS	20.7	27
RED ZONE TD %	47.9	18

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	279.6	4
AGAINST RUSH	115.8	22
AGAINST PASS	163.8	2
PTS. ALLOWED	269	7T
INTERCEPTIONS	17	13T
SACKS	45	8
TURNOVER DIFF.	0	16T



MICHAEL WESTBROOK
16.4 CAREER REC AVERAGE



New coach Marty Schottenheimer's (left) no-frills approach should suit defensive end Marco Coleman, who kept his head down with a career-high 12 sacks and first-ever Pro Bowl invite last season.

30th to fourth last season under coordinator Ray Rhodes, the 'Skins still ranked 22nd against the run and released their primary run-stopper, Dana Stubblefield, for cap reasons.

Marco Coleman played better and cheaper than Bruce Smith, who still has some juice left at end. Coleman had 12 sacks, Smith 10. Defensive coordinator Kurt Schottenheimer, Marty's brother, would like to see Dan Wilkinson get into the kind of physical condi-

tion he has never experienced in order to tap his potential. Kenard Lang can play inside and out and becomes a key after N.D. Kalu signed with Philadelphia and Stubblefield left. Del Cowsette and veteran Nolan Harrison are also possibilities to step up.

The Redskins also lost solid, if unspectacular, middle linebacker Derek M. Smith to San Francisco and they aren't sure whether to insert Kevin Mitchell there or

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 8, Lost 8

DATE		SCORE	
09/03	W	20-17	Carolina
09/10	L	10-15	at Detroit
09/18	L	21-27	Dallas
09/24	W	16-6	at New York Giants
10/01	W	20-17 OT	Tampa Bay
10/08	W	17-14	at Philadelphia
10/15	W	10-3	Baltimore
10/22	W	35-16	at Jacksonville
10/30	L	21-27	Tennessee
11/05	L	15-16	at Arizona
11/20	W	33-20	at St. Louis
11/26	L	20-23	Philadelphia
12/03	L	7-9	New York Giants
12/10	L	13-32	at Dallas
12/16	L	3-24	at Pittsburgh
12/24	W	20-3	Arizona

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Davis	332	1318	4.0	50t	11
Centers	19	103	5.4	14	0
Thrash	10	82	8.2	34	0
Hicks	29	78	2.7	12	0
Johnson	22	58	2.6	21	1
Murrell	20	50	2.5	13	0
George	7	24	3.4	14	0
Fryar	2	16	8.0	15	0
Barnhardt	1	11	11.0	11	0
Bailey	1	7	7.0	7t	1
Sellers	1	2	2.0	2	0
Team	446	1748	3.9	50t	14
Opponents	430	1853	4.3	54	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Centers	81	600	7.4	26	3
Thrash	50	653	13.1	50	2
Alexander	47	510	10.9	30	2
Fryar	41	548	13.4	34t	5
Connell	39	762	19.5	77t	3
Davis	33	313	9.5	39	0
Murrell	16	93	5.8	12	0
Reed	10	103	10.3	21t	1
Westbrook	9	103	11.4	21	0
Sellers	8	78	9.8	24	2
Hicks	5	43	8.6	25	0
Bailey	3	78	26.0	42	0
Flemister	1	8	8.0	8	0
Team	342	3892	11.4	77t	18
Opponents	254	2904	11.4	76t	12

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Johnson	365	228	2505	11	15
George	194	113	1389	7	6
Team	560	342	3892	18	21
Opponents	462	254	2904	12	17

SACKS

Coleman 12.0, B. Smith 10.0, Arrington 4.0, Stubblefield 2.5, Wilkinson 3.5, Lang 3.0, Barber 2.0, Mason 2.0, Harrison 1.0, Jones 1.0, Kalu 1.0, Mitchell 1.0, Shade 1.0, D. Smith 1.0

Team 45.0, Opponents 32.0

PROJECTED STARTERS

X KR OCTOBER

X PR BAILEY

SHADE

SS

CARRIER

FS

MITCHELL

MLB

ARRINGTON

SLB

BARBER

WLB

BAILEY

CB

B. SMITH

RE

LANG

RT

WILKINSON

LT

COLEMAN

LE

GREEN

CB

WESTBROOK

WR

SAMUELS

LT

CAMPBELL

LG

RAYMER

C

MOORE

RG

JANSEN

RT

ALEXANDER

TE

GARDNER

WR

GEORGE

QB

BENNETT

FB

DAVIS

RB

K CONWAY

P BARKER

REDSKINS



Versatile third-year pro Champ Bailey, who started one game last year at cornerback and wide receiver, led the 'Skins with five interceptions and was elected to his first Pro Bowl in 2000.

convert weakside linebacker **Shawn Barber**. Moving Barber would allow second-year man **LaVar Arrington** to play the weakside after struggling on the other side. **Greg Jones** could regain his spot on the strongside.

Deion who?

Darrell Green is 41 years old, one of the true physical phenomena in sport, and he wants his starting cornerback job back from **Deion Sanders**. There is no reason not to listen, especially with Sanders apparently more interested in baseball once again. Schottenheimer drafted mouthy **Fred Smoot** just in case. **Champ Bailey** is an emerging star at the other corner and **Tyronne Drakeford** is an experienced backup. **Sam Shade** and **Mark Carrier** are the safeties, with second-year men **David Terrell** and **Josh Symonette** behind them.

The Redskins figure everything would have turned out all right if they hadn't switched to four placekickers and wound up with 44-year-old **Eddie Murray**. They are begging for relief and hope to get it from **Brett Conway**. They hired **Bryan Barker** from Jacksonville to punt. Bailey can return punts, but Snyder is still looking for a replacement for the great **Brian Mitchell**. Canadian **Winston October** will get a look. ■



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK 1	9/9	at San Diego	4:15
WEEK 2	9/16	ARIZONA	1:00
WEEK 3	9/24	at Green Bay	8:00
WEEK 4	9/30	KANSAS CITY	1:00
WEEK 5	10/7	at N.Y. Giants	1:00
WEEK 6	10/15	at Dallas	9:00
WEEK 7	10/21	CAROLINA	1:00
WEEK 8	10/28	N.Y. GIANTS	8:30
WEEK 9	11/4	SEATTLE	4:15
WEEK 10	11/11	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 11	11/18	at Denver	4:15
WEEK 12	11/25	at Philadelphia	1:00
WEEK 13	12/2	DALLAS	4:15
WEEK 14	12/9	at Arizona	4:05
WEEK 15	12/16	PHILADELPHIA	1:00
WEEK 16	12/23	CHICAGO	1:00
WEEK 17	12/30	at New Orleans	8:30

*All times Eastern

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Marty Schottenheimer, head coach

Richard Mann, wide receivers; **Bill Arnsparger**, defensive assistant; **Greg Manuskay**, linebackers coach; **Brian Schottenheimer**, offensive assistant; **Jimmy Raye**, offensive coordinator; **Kurt Schottenheimer**, defensive coordinator; **Pete Carmichael Jr.**, offensive assistant/quality control; **Mike Stock**, special teams; **Tony Sparano**, tight ends coach; **Dave Redding**, strength and conditioning; **Jerry Holmes**, secondary coach

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
3	George, Jeff	QB 5-3	214	12/08/67	11	Illinois
8	Husak, Todd	QB 6-3	215	07/06/78	1	Stanford
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
57	Leeuwenburg, Jay	G 6-3	290	06/18/69	9	Colorado
52	Raymer, Cory	C 6-2	289	03/03/73	5	Wisconsin
76	Albright, Ethan	C 6-5	278	05/01/71	6	North Carolina
51	Fischer, Mark	C 6-3	293	07/29/74	2	Purdue
76	Jansen, Jon	T 6-6	302	01/28/76	2	Michigan
67	Fletcher, Derrick	G 6-6	355	09/09/75	1	Baylor
60	Samuels, Chris	T 6-5	291	07/28/77	1	Alabama
66	Moore, Michael	G 6-3	301	11/01/76	1	Troy State
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Bennett, Donnell	RB 6-0	246	09/14/72	7	Miami
48	Davis, Stephen	RB 6-0	234	03/01/74	5	Auburn
47	Johnson, Bryan	RB 5-10	234	01/18/78	1	Boise State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Reed, Andre	WR 6-2	190	01/29/64	16	Kutztown
88	Jenkins, James	TE 6-2	249	08/17/67	10	Rutgers
89	Rasby, Walter	TE 6-3	251	09/07/72	7	Wake Forest
82	Westbrook, Michael	WR 6-3	220	07/07/72	6	Colorado
81	Lockett, Kevin	WR 6-0	188	09/08/74	4	Kansas State
80	Alexander, Stephen	TE 6-4	246	11/07/75	3	Oklahoma
13	Thompson, Derrius	WR 6-2	215	07/05/77	2	Baylor
20	Goodson, Tyrone	WR 6-2	195	02/24/74	0	Auburn
89	Howell, Ethan	WR 5-11	178	10/14/77	0	Oklahoma State
89	Flemister, Zeron	TE 6-4	241	09/08/76	1	Iowa
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
78	Smith, Bruce	DE 6-4	279	06/18/63	16	Virginia Tech
99	Coleman, Marco	DE 6-3	267	12/18/69	9	Georgia Tech
95	Wilkinson, Dan	DT 6-5	313	03/13/73	7	Ohio State
90	Lang, Kenard	DE 6-4	277	01/31/75	4	Miami (FL)
91	Cowsette, Delbert	DE 6-1	274	09/03/77	0	Maryland
75	Ham, Derrick	DE 6-4	257	03/23/75	1	Miami (FL)
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Sanders, Deion	CB 6-1	198	08/09/67	12	Florida State
28	Green, Darrell	CB 5-8	184	02/15/60	18	Texas A&M-Kingsville
27	Carrier, Mark	S 6-1	190	04/28/68	11	Southern California
26	Buckley, Curtis	CB 6-0	182	09/25/70	7	East Texas State
29	Shade, Sam	S 6-1	201	06/14/73	6	Alabama
25	Greer, Donovan	CB 5-10	178	09/11/74	4	Texas A&M
31	Terrell, David	CB 6-1	188	07/08/75	1	UTEP
24	Bailey, Champ	CB 6-1	184	06/22/78	2	Georgia
41	Harrison, Lloyd	CB 5-11	189	06/21/77	1	North Carolina State
34	Symonette, Josh	S 6-0	180	05/08/78	1	Tennessee Tech
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Mitchell, Kevin	LB 6-1	254	01/01/71	7	Syracuse
53	Mason, Eddie	LB 6-0	236	01/09/72	4	North Carolina
59	Barber, Shawn	LB 6-2	224	01/14/75	3	Richmond
56	Arrington, LaVar	LB 6-3	233	06/20/78	1	Penn State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Barker, Bryan	P 6-2	201	06/28/64	11	Santa Clara
1	Conway, Brett	K 6-2	192	03/08/75	3	Penn State
	Bentley, Scott	K 5-11	205	04/10/74	3	Florida State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	15	Gardner, Rod	WR	6-2	217	10/26/77	Clemson
2	14	Smoot, Fred	CB	5-11	172	04/17/79	Mississippi State
4	14	Rosenfels, Sage	QB	6-4	229	03/06/78	Iowa State
5	23	McCants, Darnerian	WR	6-4	207	08/01/77	Delaware State
6	23	Monds, Mario	DT	6-2	342	11/10/76	Cincinnati

Emmitt stands alone, as Cowboys view upcoming season as holding pattern.

Now there is one. Emmitt Smith is the last of the triplets. Troy Aikman reluctantly followed Michael Irvin into retirement, leaving the Cowboys with only one leg to stand on.

Two, actually. You still have to look hard to see signs of Smith slowing down at age 32. He's only 103 yards behind Barry Sanders now and only 1,560 behind all-time leading rusher Walter Payton.



Raghib Ismail hopes to bounce back from a disappointing season that produced only 25 catches.

"I told Emmitt I'd give anything to be on that field when he breaks Walter Payton's record," Aikman said in a tearful farewell.

Smith's quest is liable to take him into the 2002 season, but that is what owner Jerry Jones is pointing toward anyway. Jones admitted to fans that he is so strapped under the constraints of the salary cap that this season constitutes a holding pattern.

Short-term answers on offense

To step in for Aikman at quarterback, the Cowboys signed St. Louis and Baltimore castoff **Tony Banks** to a one-year contract at

a minimum \$500,000 salary. To take up some slack at receiver, they signed Cincinnati and Tennessee castoff **Carl Pickens**, again for only one year. The idea is to get through 2001 and regroup.

Without Aikman, Jones will see how the other half lives for the first time. When he bought the Cowboys, Jones had the No. 1 draft pick fall into his lap. Three Super Bowls and 12 seasons later, the Cowboys will discover just how rare franchise quarterbacks are. Behind Banks, the Cowboys have untested **Anthony Wright** and **Clint Stoerner** and made Georgia's **Quincy Carter** their top draft choice in the second round.

Long-ball threat real

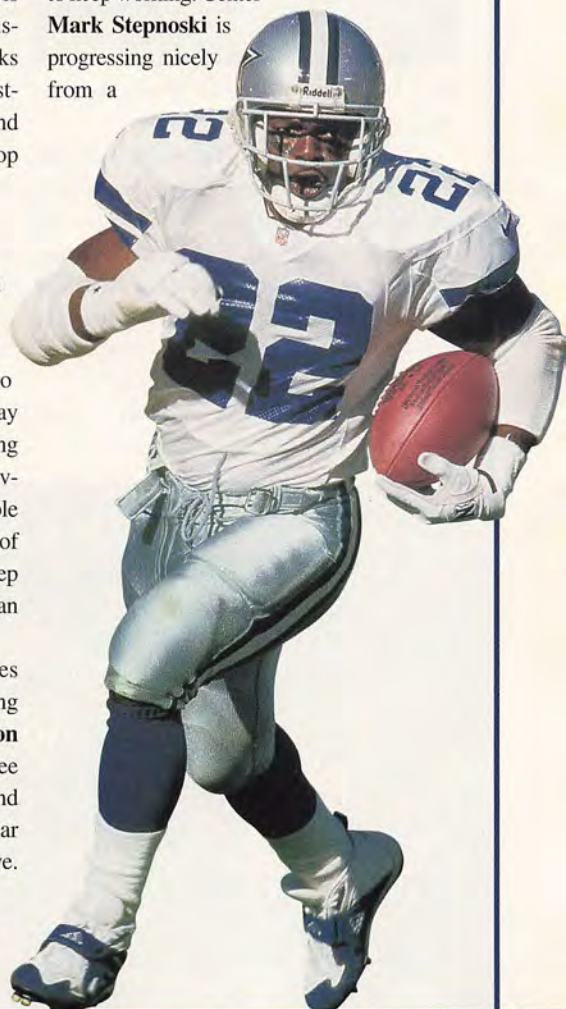
If there is hope for this season, it is in Banks' ability to throw the long ball. The Cowboys traded for speedster **Joey Galloway** from Seattle last year, giving up two first-round draft choices only to see Galloway suffer a torn ACL in his left knee on opening day. Since it often requires a full year of recovery, there is no guarantee Galloway will be able to regain full strength and speed by the start of this season. **Raghib Ismail** is the other deep threat coach Dave Campo hopes Banks can exploit. He caught only 25 balls last year.

Last year's leading receiver, James McKnight, was signed by Miami, leaving **Wane McGarity**, **Jason Tucker** and **Damon Hodge** as reserves. The Cowboys hope free agent Pickens can regain form. Tight end **Jackie Harris** is coming off a productive year as the leading touchdown receiver with five. **David LaFleur** is the blocking tight end.

Emmitt Smith now has his eyes on history and gaining the 1,561 yards it will take to break Walter Payton's career rushing mark.

The Cowboys managed to keep blocking fullback **Robert Thomas** for Smith. Backups are second-year players **Troy Hambrick** and **Michael Wiley** and XFL signee **John Avery**.

A change in the offensive line is necessary with the departure of another longtime starter, right tackle **Erik Williams**, who will be replaced by right guard **Solomon Page**. **Al Jackson** and **Kelvin Garmon** will battle for Page's spot opposite great left guard **Larry Allen**, who anchors the left side with tackle **Flozell Adams**, two reasons Smith is happy to keep working. Center **Mark Stepnoski** is progressing nicely from a



NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	279.7 25
RUSHING	122.1 12
PASSING	157.6 28
SCORING	294 23
PUNT RETURNS	10.4 10
KICK RETURNS	21.1 20T
RED ZONE TD %	48.9 16

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	333.1 19
AGAINST RUSH	164.8 31
AGAINST PASS	168.3 3
PTS. ALLOWED	361 22
INTERCEPTIONS	16 18T
SACKS	25 29T
TURNOVER DIFF.	-14 28T



DARREN WOODSON
62 TACKLES



Defensive end Greg Ellis (left) and guard Larry Allen provide the glue up front for the Cowboys. Ellis led the team in tackles, while Allen was selected to his sixth Pro Bowl.

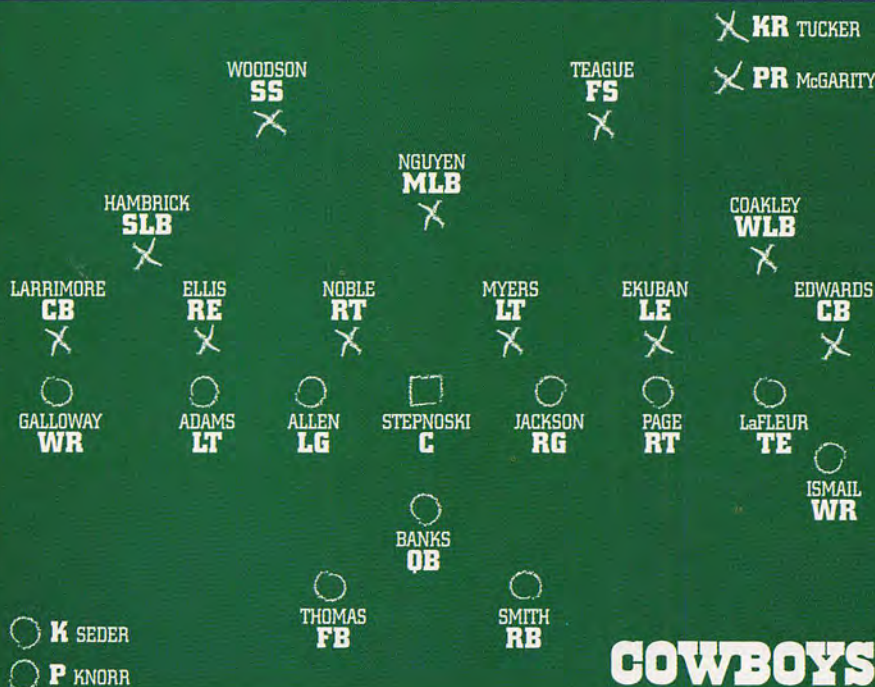
knee injury. Ben Fricke and Craig Page are backup centers.

Nobody was worse against the run than the Cowboys, so Campo knows his work is cut out for him on defense. Stopping the run is the first order of business for any defense, and the Cowboys simply couldn't do it. The Cowboys used six draft picks on defense, four on the defensive line, and every one of them will get a chance to contribute.

End Greg Ellis is the only certain starter on the front four. Campo hopes a

tackle rotation of Brandon Noble, Michael Myers and Dimitrius Underwood is adequate, but draft picks Willie Blade, Daleroy Stewart and John Nix all will get looks inside. Leon Lett signed in Denver and the Cowboys are so desperate they may invite Chad Hennings back after serious neck surgery. Ebenezer Ekuban, a sack specialist who led the team with a modest 6 1/2 take-downs, will vie for playing time at end, but the Cowboys have the "help wanted" signs out. Peppi Zellner is coming off knee surgery.

PROJECTED STARTERS



COWBOYS

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE		SCORE	
09/03	L	14-41	Philadelphia
09/10	L	31-32	at Arizona
09/18	W	27-21	at Washington
09/24	L	24-41	San Francisco
10/01	W	16-13 OT	at Carolina
10/15	L	14-19	at New York Giants
10/22	W	48-7	Arizona
10/29	L	17-23 OT	Jacksonville
11/05	L	13-16 OT	at Philadelphia
11/12	W	23-6	Cincinnati
11/19	L	0-27	at Baltimore
11/23	L	15-27	Minnesota
12/03	L	7-27	at Tampa Bay
12/10	W	32-13	Washington
12/17	L	13-17	New York Giants
12/25	L	0-31	at Tennessee

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	294	1203	4.1	52	9
Warren	59	254	4.3	32t	2
R. Cunningham	23	89	3.9	19	1
Wiley	24	88	3.7	11	0
Ismail	8	73	9.1	37	0
Thomas	15	51	3.4	9	0
McGarity	6	49	8.2	22t	1
Tucker	4	42	10.5	17t	1
Wright	12	36	3	19	0
Hambrick	6	28	4.7	13	0
Coakley	1	26	26	26	0
Aikman	10	13	1.3	5	0
Seder	1	1	1	1t	1
Team	463	1953	4.2	52	15
Opponents	537	2637	4.9	70t	17

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
McKnight	52	926	17.8	48	2
Harris	39	306	7.8	21	5
Warren	31	302	9.7	76t	1
Ismail	25	350	14	44	1
McGarity	25	250	10	25	0
Thomas	23	117	5.1	14	2
Wiley	14	72	5.1	15t	1
Tucker	13	126	9.7	18	0
LaFleur	12	109	19.1	19	1
Smith	11	79	7.2	19	0
Galloway	4	62	15.5	22	1
Hodge	4	60	15	20	0
Brazzell	2	12	6	10	0
Team	255	2771	10.9	76t	14
Opponents	277	2882	10.4	68t	20

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Aikman	262	156	1632	7	14
R. Cunningham	125	74	849	6	4
Wright	53	22	237	0	3
Stoerner	5	3	53	1	0
Team	445	255	2771	14	21
Opponents	458	277	2882	20	16

SACKS

Ekuban 6.5, Spellman 5.0, Underwood 4.0, Ellis 3.0, Lett 2.5, Zellner 2.0, Hambrick 1.0, Noble 1.0

Team 25.0, Opponents 35.0

Dexter returns to laboratory

Re-signing linebacker **Dexter Coakley** was a needed step toward solidifying the defense. The Cowboys couldn't imagine what they might look like without him. He and **Darren Hambrick** led the team in tackles. Middle linebacker **Dat Nguyen** is undersized and better in coverage. **Orantes Grant**, **Joe Bowden** and **Barron Wortham** lend some depth.

Darren Woodson returns as the glue of the secondary at strong safety after missing the last five games with a broken arm. Campo hopes **George Teague** or **Izell Reese** can stay healthy at the free safety spot. Cornerback **Ryan McNeil** went to San Diego, leaving the starting corner jobs up to **Kareem Larrimore**, **Charlie Williams**, **Mario Edwards** and **Duane Hawthorne**. **Dwayne Goodrich** and **Earl Riley** are backups at safety.

Punter **Micah Knorr** and kicker **Tim Seder** were the league's only pair of rookie kickers, indicating the Cowboy commitment to youth. Backup wideouts **Tucker** and **McGarity** return kicks and punts, respectively, although Campo would just as soon see them emerge as valuable receivers more than specialists.

The offseason moves to re-sign linebacker Dexter Coakley (left) and bring in strong-armed free agent Tony Banks at quarterback may give the Cowboys a chance to be competitive this year.



DALLAS COWBOYS

Dave Campo, head coach

Joe Avezzano, special teams/tight ends; **Bill Bates**, nickel package/assistant special teams coach; **Wes Chandler**, wide receivers; **George Edwards**, linebackers; **Steve Hoffman**, kickers/quality control; **Hudson Houck**, offensive line; **Jim Jeffcoat**, defensive line; **Joe Juraszek**, strength and conditioning; **Andre Patterson**, defensive line; **Clancy Pendergast**, defensive backs; **Jack Reilly**, offensive coordinator; **Clarence Shelmon**, running backs; **Wade Wilson**, quarterbacks; **Mike Zimmer**, defensive coordinator

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Banks, Tony	QB 6-4	230	04/05/73	5	Michigan State
2	Wright, Anthony	QB 6-1	195	02/14/76	1	South Carolina
5	Stoerner, Clint	QB 6-2	210	12/29/77	1	Arkansas
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
53	Stepnoski, Mark	C 6-2	265	01/20/67	12	Pittsburgh
73	Allen, Larry	G 6-3	326	11/27/71	7	Sonoma State
76	Adams, Flozell	T 6-7	335	05/18/75	3	Michigan State
66	Fricke, Ben	G 6-0	295	11/13/75	2	Houston
77	Page, Solomon	G 6-4	321	02/27/76	2	West Virginia
61	Garmon, Kelvin	G 6-2	329	10/26/76	0	Baylore
62	Page, Craig	C 6-3	303	01/17/76	1	Georgia Tech
71	Jackson, Al	G 6-3	306	05/18/77	1	LSU
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
22	Smith, Emmitt	RB 6-9	209	05/15/69	11	Florida
44	Thomas, Robert	RB 6-1	252	12/01/74	3	Henderson State
32	Wiley, Michael	RB 5-11	189	01/05/78	1	Ohio State
35	Hambrick, Troy	RB 6-1	235	11/06/76	1	Savannah State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Harris, Jackie	TE 6-4	250	01/04/68	11	Northeast Louisiana
86	Pickens, Carl	WR 6-2	206	03/23/70	9	Tennessee
81	Ismail, Raghib	WR 5-11	190	11/18/69	8	Notre Dame
84	Galloway, Joey	WR 5-11	188	11/18/69	6	Ohio State
89	LaFleur, David	TE 6-7	272	01/29/74	4	LSU
87	Tucker, Jason	WR 6-1	182	06/24/76	2	Texas Christian
85	Brazzell, Chris	WR 6-2	193	05/22/76	2	Angelo State
80	Fontenot, Chris	TE 6-4	250	07/11/74	1	McNeese State
83	McGarity, Wane	WR 6-8	197	09/30/76	2	Texas
84	Lucky, Mike	TE 6-6	273	11/23/75	1	Arizona
46	Whalen, James	TE 6-2	228	12/11/77	1	Kentucky
84	Yamini, Bashir	WR 6-3	190	09/10/77	1	Iowa
16	Hodge, Damon	WR 6-1	192	02/16/77	1	Alabama State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
91	Ifeanyi, Israel	DE 6-3	260	11/21/70	1	Southern California
98	Ellis, Greg	DE 6-6	286	08/14/75	3	North Carolina
94	Myers, Michael	DT 6-2	288	01/20/76	3	Alabama
96	Ekuban, Ebenezer	DE 6-3	265	05/29/76	2	North Carolina
91	Underwood, D.	DE 6-6	276	03/29/77	1	Michigan State
93	Zellner, Peppi	DE 6-5	257	03/14/75	2	Fort Valley State
68	Scarlett, Noel	DT 6-3	320	01/21/74	1	Langston
92	White, Chris	DE 6-3	281	09/28/76	1	Southern University
72	Noble, Brandon	DT 6-2	285	04/10/74	2	Penn State
97	Fields, Aaron	DE 6-4	243	01/09/76	1	Troy State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Sparks, Phillip	CB 5-11	190	04/15/69	9	Arizona State
28	Woodson, Darren	S 6-1	219	04/25/69	9	Arizona State
31	Teague, George	S 6-1	196	02/18/71	8	Alabama
29	Myers, Greg	S 6-1	202	09/30/72	5	Colorado State
43	Reese, Izell	S 6-2	190	05/07/74	3	UAB
26	Jones, Jermaine	CB 6-8	172	07/25/76	1	Northwestern State
38	Hawthorne, Duane	CB 5-10	175	08/26/76	2	Northern Illinois
23	Goodrich, Dwayne	CB 5-11	198	05/29/78	1	Tennessee
41	Larrimore, Kareem	CB 5-11	190	04/21/76	1	West Texas A&M
27	Edwards, Mario	CB 6-0	191	12/01/75	1	Florida State
30	Riley, Earl	S 6-1	205	01/13/77	0	Washington State
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Coakley, Dexter	LB 5-10	228	10/20/72	4	Appalachian State
54	Hambrick, Darren	LB 6-2	227	08/30/75	3	South Carolina
59	Nguyen, Dat	LB 5-11	231	09/25/75	2	Texas A&M
56	Grant, Orantes	LB 6-0	225	03/18/78	1	Georgia
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
6	Seder, Tim	K 5-9	180	09/17/74	1	Ashland
4	Knorr, Micah	P 6-2	193	01/09/75	1	Utah State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
2	22	Carter, Quincy	QB	6-2	220	10/13/77	Georgia
2	25	Dixon, Tony	S	6-1	213	06/18/79	Alabama
3	31	Blade, Willie	DT	6-3	314	02/07/79	Mississippi State
4	27	Steele, Markus	LB	6-2	232	07/24/79	Southern California
5	6	Lehr, Matt	G	6-2	291	04/25/79	Virginia Tech
6	8	Stewart, Daleroy	DT	6-3	310	11/01/78	Southern Mississippi
7	7	Weatherington, C.	DE	6-5	265	—	Central Missouri State
7	40	Nix, John	DT	6-1	315	—	Southern Mississippi
7	42	Dorsey, Char-ron	T	6-6	348	—	Florida State

*All times Eastern

2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
WEEK 1	9/9	TAMPA BAY	1:00
WEEK 2	9/16	at Detroit	1:00
WEEK 3	9/23	SAN DIEGO	1:00
WEEK 4	9/30	at Philadelphia	8:30
WEEK 5	10/7	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 6	10/15	WASHINGTON	9:00
WEEK 7	10/21	at Oakland	4:15
WEEK 8	10/28	ARIZONA	4:05
WEEK 9	11/4	at N.Y. Giants	1:00
WEEK 10	11/11	at Atlanta	1:00
WEEK 11	11/18	PHILADELPHIA	1:00
WEEK 12	11/22	DENVER	4:05
WEEK 13	12/2	at Washington	4:15
WEEK 14	12/9	N.Y. GIANTS	1:00
WEEK 15	12/16	at Seattle	4:15
WEEK 16	12/23	at Arizona	4:05
WEEK 17	12/30	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00



The inconsistent Jake Plummer (top) will have no shortage of weapons this season. One of them, third-year receiver David Boston, came into his own in 2000, producing four 100-yard receiving games and 71 receptions.

With limited supplies, McGinnis will try his hand at getting the sun to rise again for Arizona.

Only two years after a playoff breakthrough, the Cardinals are again a team of broken promise. As if a half-century of playoff frustration wasn't punishment enough, Cardinal fans were teased for an instant in 1998 and then rudely jerked back to earth. A future that looked bright with a young quarterback and young defensive line suddenly looks bleak.

Offense by Jake

The young quarterback, **Jake Plummer**, remains a work in progress. The young defensive line disappeared like a mirage in the Arizona desert—Simeon Rice, Eric Swann and Mark Smith all gone—with **Andre Wadsworth** limping toward an uncertain career.

Coach Vince Tobin was fired and replaced by defensive coordinator Dave McGinnis last season, who was named "permanent" coach despite a 1-8 finish as the head man. Injuries decimated the team, with starters missing a total of 109 games. The biggest victory for owner Bill Bidwill's franchise was a vote that paved the way for a new stadium, as big an upset as the NFL could boast all last season.

McGinnis is making changes as fast as time and money will allow, but there are so many holes in his defense that the Cardinals' best chance for respectability anytime soon is to outscore teams—not an easy task for a team that finished last in the NFC in scoring.

McGinnis switched offensive coordinators, adding Rich Olson from the Washington Redskins to tutor Plummer and bringing back quarterback coach Geep Chryst from the San

Diego Chargers. Chryst coached Plummer in his first two seasons, when his passer rating was higher than it has been in his last two.

Moore's return boosts passing game

One of the most costly injuries last season was to receiver **Rob Moore**, whose return will bolster Plummer's cast of weapons. **David Boston**, **Frank Sanders** and a healthy Moore give the Cards potentially one of the league's best pass-catching trios. Young kick returner **MarTay Jenkins** also showed promise. The tight end is **Terry Hardy**.

Running back **Michael Pittman** was Plummer's leading receiver as well as the team's leading rusher. The Cardinals hope he doesn't have to do such double-duty again. Second-year running back **Thomas Jones**, the team's No. 1 draft choice of a year ago, must take over and prove his worth after a frustrating rookie season that ended with a bout of pneumonia and pleurisy. **Joel Makovicka** is the blocking back.

McGinnis is a defensive coach, but he has put his 2001 eggs in the offensive basket. The drafting of mammoth offensive tackle **Leonard Davis** will give Plummer one of the biggest lines in NFL history. The 6-6, 370-pound Davis played left tackle at Texas and, if he can make the transition, former No. 1 pick **L.J. Shelton** could move to right guard opposite free-agent pickup left guard **Pete Kendall** from Seattle. Otherwise, the 6-6, 360-pound Shelton will stay at left tackle and Davis will play right guard beside 6-8, 350-pound right tackle **Anthony Clement**. Kendall is a mere 292 and center **Mike Gruttadauria** is a tiny 286. Gruttadauria was hurt most of last season and **Chris Dishman** filled in.

Life after Aeneas

On defense, the Cardinals have practically abdicated, trading their top player, Pro Bowl cornerback **Aeneas Williams**, to St. Louis during the draft. After Davis, the

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	283.0 24	TOTAL DEFENSE	358.6 30
RUSHING	79.9 27	AGAINST RUSH	163.1 30
PASSING	203.1 17	AGAINST PASS	195.5 11
SCORING	210 29	PTS. ALLOWED	443 30
PUNT RETURNS	7.0 29	INTERCEPTIONS	10 27T
KICK RETURNS	26.7 1	SACKS	25 29T
RED ZONE TD %	31.8 31	TURNOVER DIFF.	-24 30

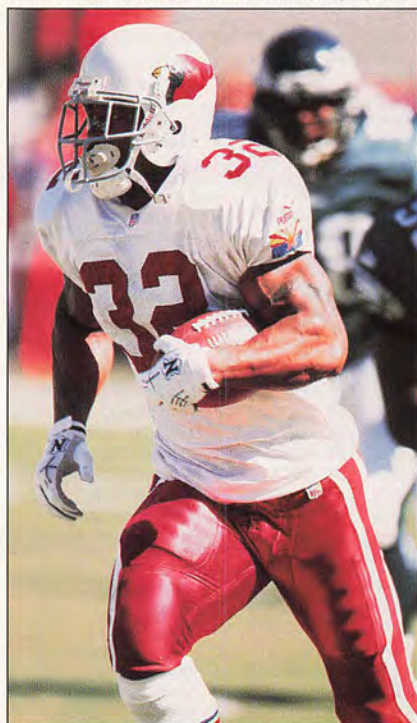


KWAMIE LASSITER
63 TACKLES

Cardinals began to rebuild the defense in the draft, starting with Nebraska defensive end **Kyle Vanden Bosch** and Memphis cornerback **Michael Stone**. They will eventually replace Rice and Williams, respectively. The Cardinals also selected North Carolina State safety **Adrian Wilson** and Memphis defensive tackle **Marcus Bell** to compete for starting jobs.

With Wadsworth's availability and football future still very much in doubt after surgeries on both knees, the Cardinals have to start from scratch on the defensive line. **Brad Ottis** filled in for Wadsworth last year. **Jabari Issa** will compete for the starting spot. **Corey Sears** and **Thomas Burke** also return. Inside, the Cards will make do with **Russell Davis**, **Mao Tosi**, **Barron Tanner** and **Rashod Swinger**.

Last year's top pick, Thomas Jones (right), won a starting job in preseason but quickly gave way to Michael Pittman, who became the first player to lead the Cards in rushing and receptions since 1975.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 3, Lost 13

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 16-21	at New York Giants
09/10	W 32-31	Dallas
09/24	L 3-29	Green Bay
10/01	L 20-27	at San Francisco
10/08	W 29-21	Cleveland
10/15	L 14-33	Philadelphia
10/22	L 7-48	at Dallas
10/29	L 10-21	New Orleans
11/05	W 16-15	Washington
11/12	L 14-31	at Minnesota
11/19	L 9-34	at Philadelphia
11/26	L 7-31	New York Giants
12/03	L 13-24	at Cincinnati
12/10	L 10-44	at Jacksonville
12/17	L 7-13	Baltimore
12/24	L 3-20	at Washington

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Pittman	184	719	3.9	29	4
Jones	112	373	3.3	29	2
Plummer	37	183	4.9	24	0
Boston	3	9	3.0	24	0
Makovicka	3	8	2.7	7	0
Greisen	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	343	1278	3.7	29	6
Opponents	579	2609	4.5	78t	29

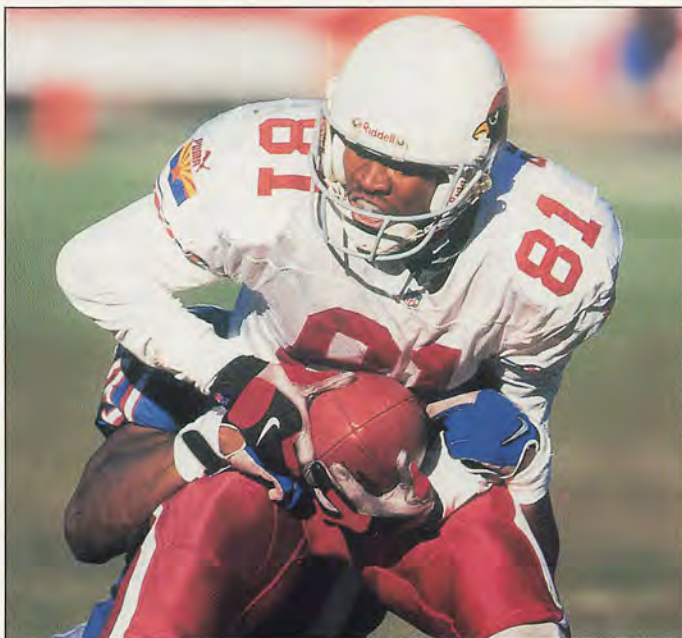
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Pittman	73	579	7.9	36t	2
Boston	71	1156	16.3	70t	7
Sanders	54	749	13.9	53t	6
Jones	32	208	6.5	20	0
Hardy	27	160	5.9	13	1
Jenkins	17	219	12.9	34	0
Cody	17	212	12.5	24	0
Gedney	10	75	7.5	24	0
Makovicka	6	18	3.0	5	0
Mitchell	5	80	16.0	42	0
McKinley	2	13	6.5	9	0
Williams	1	5	5.0	5	0
Tant	1	4	4.0	4	0
Team	316	3478	11.0	70t	16
Opponents	295	3263	11.1	65t	19

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Plummer	475	270	2946	13	21
Brown	69	40	467	2	3
Greisen	10	6	65	1	0
Team	554	316	3478	16	24
Opponents	458	295	3263	19	10

SACKS

Rice 7.5, McKinnon 4.0, M. Smith 3.0, Folston 2.0, Maddox 1.5, Tillman 1.5, Fredrickson 1.0, Knight 1.0, Ottis 1.0, Issa 1.0, Wadsworth 1.0

Team 25.0, Opponents 35.0



Six-year veteran Frank Sanders is one of the NFC's best at making clutch third-down receptions.

Middle linebacker **Ron McKinnon** was the only member of the front seven who started every game and he returns as the focal point of the unit. **Rob Fredrickson** and **Raynoch Thompson** are the outside backers. **James Folston** and **Johnny Rutledge** are in reserve.

Replacing Williams will be next to impossible. He played 169 straight games for the Cardinals, the longest streak in team history for a player other than kicker, and his 46 interceptions came within six of Larry Wilson's team record. **Corey Chavous** and **Tom Knight** will have to step up. Stone will get a starting look, as will **David Barrett** and **Coby Rhinehart**. All applications accepted.

Safeties **Pat Tillman** and **Kwamie Lassiter** both started every game last season. If Chavous doesn't have to play corner, he is a candidate to push for a job inside.

McGinnis used a fourth-round pick to draft placekicker **Bill Gramatica**, emphasizing his hope that the Cardinals can score. Pro Bowler **Scott Player** is the punter. Jenkins returns kicks and sixth-round draft choice **Bobby Newcombe** should replace **Mac Cody** as the punt returner.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK		9/9	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 1		9/9	at Washington	1:00
WEEK 2		9/16	DENVER	8:35
WEEK 3		9/23	ATLANTA	4:05
WEEK 4		10/7	at Philadelphia	1:00
WEEK 5		10/14	at Chicago	1:00
WEEK 6		10/21	KANSAS CITY	4:00
WEEK 7		10/28	at Dallas	4:05
WEEK 8		11/4	PHILADELPHIA	4:05
WEEK 9		11/11	N.Y. GIANTS	4:15
WEEK 10		11/18	DETROIT	4:15
WEEK 11		11/25	at San Diego	4:15
WEEK 12		12/2	at Oakland	4:05
WEEK 13		12/9	WASHINGTON	4:05
WEEK 14		12/15	at N.Y. Giants	12:30
WEEK 15		12/23	DALLAS	4:05
WEEK 16		12/30	at Carolina	1:00
WEEK 17				

*All times Eastern

ARIZONA CARDINALS

Dave McGinnis, head coach

Jeff Fitzgerald, quality control; Geep Chryst, quarterbacks; Joe Greene, defensive line; Hank Kuhlmann, special teams; Pat Hoener, tight ends coach; Kevin Ramsey, defensive backs; Larry Marmie, defensive coordinator; Glenn Pires, linebackers; Jeff Fitzgerald, linebackers; Jerry Sullivan, wide receivers; Bob Rogucki, strength and conditioning; Johnny Roland, running backs; Rich Olson, offensive coordinator; George Warhop, offensive line; Mike Devlin, assistant offensive line; Stan Kwan, defensive quality control

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Brown, Dave	QB 6-6	230	02/25/70	9	Duke
16	Plummer, Jake	QB 6-2	198	12/19/74	4	Arizona State
14	Greisen, Chris	QB 6-3	227	07/02/76	2	Northwest Missouri State
9	Kennan, Sean	QB 6-3	209	01/02/77	0	Williams

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
64	Davids-Garrido, N.	T 6-6	336	10/04/72	5	Southern California
66	Kendall, Pete	G 6-5	292	07/09/73	5	Boston College
79	Clark, Jon	T 6-7	350	03/11/73	4	Temple
60	Gruttadauria, Mike	C 6-3	286	12/06/72	5	Central Florida
67	Dishman, Chris	G 6-3	331	02/27/94	4	Nebraska
65	Clement, Anthony	T 6-8	350	04/10/76	3	Southwestern Louisiana
70	Shelton, L.J.	T 6-6	360	03/21/76	2	Eastern Michigan
68	Scott, Yusuf	G 6-3	348	11/30/76	2	Arizona
50	Starkey, Jason	C 6-5	270	07/17/77	1	Marshall

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Pittman, Michael	RB 6-0	216	08/14/75	3	Fresno State
34	Makovicka, Joel	RB 5-11	246	10/06/75	2	Nebraska
39	McKinley, Dennis	RB 6-2	250	11/03/76	2	Mississippi State
26	Jones, Thomas	RB 5-10	211	08/19/78	1	Virginia
21	Williams, Clarence	RB 5-9	196	05/16/77	1	Michigan

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
86	Junkin, Trey	TE 6-2	247	01/23/61	18	Louisiana Tech
85	Moore, Rob	WR 6-3	204	09/27/68	10	Syracuse
81	Sanders, Frank	WR 6-2	200	02/17/73	6	Auburn
80	Hardy, Terry	TE 6-4	270	05/31/76	3	Southern Mississippi
89	Boston, David	WR 6-2	211	08/19/78	2	Ohio State
19	Jenkins, MarTay	WR 6-0	201	02/28/75	2	Nebraska-Omaha
81	Cooper, Andre	WR 6-2	210	06/21/75	1	Florida State
87	Tant, Jay	TE 6-3	254	12/04/77	1	Northwestern
83	Mitchell, Tywan	WR 6-5	220	12/10/75	1	Mankato State
11	Gilmore, Bryan	WR 6-0	194	07/21/78	1	Midwestern State

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
96	Ottis, Brad	DE 6-5	290	08/02/72	6	Wayne State (NE)
92	Tanner, Barron	DT 6-3	310	09/14/73	3	Oklahoma
91	Swinger, Rashod	DT 6-3	313	11/27/74	3	Rutgers
90	Wadsworth, Andre	DE 6-4	272	10/19/74	3	Florida State
98	Davis, Russell	DT 6-4	295	03/28/75	2	North Carolina
95	Burke, Tom	DE 6-3	275	10/12/76	2	Wisconsin
63	Broomfield, Donald	DT 6-4	311	06/10/76	0	Clemson
78	Tosi, Mao	DT 6-6	305	12/12/76	1	Idaho
72	Issa, Jabari	DT 6-5	302	04/18/78	1	Washington

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
44	McCleskey, J.J.	CB 5-8	178	04/10/70	6	Tennessee
42	Lassiter, Kwamie	S 6-0	203	12/03/69	6	Kansas
22	Knight, Tom	CB 6-0	196	12/29/74	4	Iowa
25	Chavous, Corey	CB 6-1	202	01/15/76	3	Vanderbilt
40	Tillman, Pat	S 5-11	199	11/06/76	3	Arizona State
23	Rhinehart, Coby	CB 5-11	187	02/07/77	1	Southern Methodist
41	Lucas, Justin	CB 5-10	197	07/15/76	2	Abilene Christian
36	Barrett, David	CB 5-11	198	12/22/77	1	Arkansas
47	Youngerm Jordan	CB 5-10	187	01/24/78	0	Connecticut

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Fredrickson, Rob	LB 6-4	243	05/13/71	7	Michigan State
58	Folston, James	LB 6-3	238	08/14/71	7	Northeast Louisiana
57	McKinnon, Ronald	LB 6-0	255	09/20/73	5	North Alabama
52	Walz, Zack	LB 6-4	229	02/03/76	3	Dartmouth
51	Rutledge, Johnny	LB 6-3	243	01/04/77	2	Florida State
55	Thompson, Raynoch	LB 6-3	222	11/21/77	1	Tennessee
54	Sanyika, Sekou	LB 6-3	240	03/17/78	1	California

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
15	Blanchard, Cary	K 6-2	222	11/05/68	8	Oklahoma State
10	Player, Scott	P 6-0	217	12/17/69	3	Florida State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	2	Davis, Leonard	T	6-6	370	09/05/78	Texas
2	3	Vanden Bosch, Kyle	DE	6-3	270	11/17/78	Nebraska
2	23	Stone, Michael	CB	5-11	195	02/13/78	Memphis
3	2	Wilson, Adrian	S	6-1	300	10/12/79	North Carolina State
4	3	Gramatica, Bill	K	5-10	180	07/10/78	South Florida
4	28	Bell, Marcus	DT	6-1	319	06/01/79	Memphis
5	2	Fatafeh, Mario	DT	6-1	295	01/27/79	Kansas State
6	3	Newcombe, Bobby	WR	5-10	190	08/08/79	Nebraska
7	2	Hill, Renaldo	CB	5-11	176	11/16/78	Michigan State
7	46	Ofahengau, Tevita	TE	6-2	254	07/09/75	Brigham Young

Buccaneers should get the better of a four-team race.

By Don Pierson, *Chicago Tribune*

The Chicago Bears are the only team that can't win this division and the only team that hasn't won it since 1990. After four straight years in last place, the Bears have become the old Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Nobody picked the Minnesota Vikings last year, either, but this is a four-team race with the Bucs the favorites because of defense.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Brad Johnson joins Keyshawn Johnson on offense and Simeon Rice joins Warren Sapp on defense. If the Bucs still don't have all the pieces in place, they will be very surprised and disappointed. So confident are the Bucs of their team chemistry that they didn't hesitate to take a chance on disruptive Ryan Leaf. After watching Trent Dilfer become the fourth ex-Tampa Bay quarterback to get to a Super Bowl, the Bucs are getting anxious.

Sapp dropped nearly 30 pounds and plans to perform at a relatively lean 300 pounds, which means he will be hungry. Shaun King is in better shape, too, after losing his job, so if Johnson falters, he's ready.

Green Bay Packers

After winning their final four games last year and barely missing the playoffs, the Packers are feeling momentum. Quarterback Brett Favre is happy to have Dorsey Levens back healthy. Even fat nose tackle Gilbert Brown slimmed down enough to make a comeback after a year eating cheeseburgers.

Coach Mike Sherman replaces retired Ron Wolf as general manager to do what Mike Holmgren wanted to do: coach and manage at the same time. As long as he has Favre, he has a chance to succeed. But Favre needs receivers, so this season depends a lot on whether Antonio Freeman can either rebound or be replaced.

Detroit Lions

Matt Millen jumped from the television booth to the front office and immediately

hired another offensive coordinator from the San Francisco 49ers, Marty Mornhinweg, to coach the Lions. Under Bobby Ross and interim coach Gary Moeller, the Lions underachieved. They are better than average on offense and defense, but a lot still depends on the health and progress of quarterback Charlie Batch. The Lions looked into obtaining Jacksonville quarterback Mark Brunell, but will give Batch another chance.

The word in Lions' camp is no more country club atmosphere. Something has been missing and this team is going to be in shape to find it.

Minnesota Vikings

Dean of coaches Dennis Green loves being an underdog. His Vikings thrive when the experts discount them. They won the division last year with inexperienced quarterback Daunte Culpepper, faltering only after they were favored to win the NFC. Now they have lost former All-Pro John Randle, Robert Smith and Todd Steussie, plus starting linebacker Dwayne Rudd. In addition, star Randy Moss has publicly expressed doubts the Vikings can ever get to a Super Bowl. Perfect.

Green insists they will be better than last year's division title team. It's hard to see how, but Green sees things other coaches can't.

Chicago Bears

The only team in the division without a starting quarterback in mind, the Bears have won only 11 games in coach Dick Jauron's two seasons. Jauron knows his job is in jeopardy as he decides among quarterbacks Cade McNown, Jim Miller and Shane Matthews. He would rather rely on defense, where middle linebacker Brian Urlacher was Rookie of the Year and is following in the footsteps of Bill George, Dick Butkus and Mike Singletary.

So uncertain are the Bears of their quarterback situation, they even added journeyman Billy Joe Tolliver. He has more starting experience than all the others combined, a scary thought for Bear fans.



TOP PLAYERS

OFFENSE:
Randy Moss, WR
Minnesota Vikings

DEFENSE:
Brian Urlacher, LB
Chicago Bears

NEWCOMER:
Brad Johnson, QB
Tampa Bay Buccaneers





TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

With Johnson, Rice added to already-potent mix, future is now in Tampa Bay.

Convinced they are oh so close to a Super Bowl, the Buccaneers did two unusual things on draft day: They selected an offensive tackle and they traded up to do it.

Once in need of help everywhere they looked, the Bucs are now cherry-picking in search of that one final piece that will put them over the top.

When they got within five points of the Super Bowl two years ago, they gave young quarterback **Shaun King** a chance to develop. When they failed to score a touchdown in the playoffs last year against Philadelphia, they signed free-agent quarterback **Brad Johnson**. There is no time to wait for King.

The Bucs have runners, receivers, blockers and defense. They have size, speed, youth,

toughness—everything a team could want for a Super Bowl run. They even have an outstanding kicker, although **Martin Gramatica's** miss in Green Bay in the final game of the season cost the Bucs a home playoff game.

They have everything except time, because if they don't get it done soon, they will begin to doubt their coaches, their teammates, themselves. Then they will have to start over. It is only human nature and it is only a matter of time.

Coach Tony Dungy, as steady as they come, has changed offensive coordinators for the second time in two years, elevating Clyde Christensen to a job held for only one season by Les Steckel. Johnson is expected to give the Bucs more consistency, even though he finished a tad below King in passer rating while playing in Washington. King also had a much better touchdown-to-interception ratio than Johnson, but Johnson is a more accurate passer overall with more experience.

Can Leaf change colors?

If all else fails, the Bucs have a reformed **Ryan Leaf** on their bench after his disaster in San Diego mercifully ended. As a waiver pickup rather than a No. 1 draft choice, Leaf is expected to approach his job with more urgency. For pure talent, he's ahead of Johnson or King, which means nothing.

Getting the ball to receiver **Keyshawn Johnson** and tailback **Warrick Dunn** with more frequency is the goal. Each scored eight touchdowns last season, but both should be in double-digit territory when it comes to scoring. Johnson should be acclimated to his new

Only 26, Warrick Dunn's 3,753 career rushing yards already rank second in Buccaneer history.



In his first year in Tampa Bay, Keyshawn Johnson led the Bucs in receptions (71), receiving yards (874) and touchdown catches (eight).

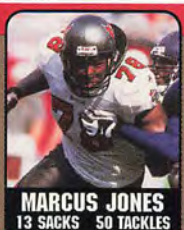
surroundings after a bumpy landing from the Jets. "Johnson-to-Johnson" should cure what ails the Bucs the way Johnson & Johnson Band-Aids fix cuts and scrapes.

Jacquez Green caught 51 passes last season but only one for a touchdown, so the Bucs need to develop more weapons to complement Johnson. If **Reidel Anthony** or **Karl Williams** aren't the answer, Dunn's role will expand further. Dunn clearly took over the No. 1 rushing job from **Mike Alstott** last year, relegating Alstott to an important, but supportive, role. The Bucs plan to use more two-back sets and H-back **Dave Moore** remains valuable as a tight end.

The Bucs hope they filled a hole at left tackle by making Florida's **Kenyatta Walker** their top pick. They hadn't selected an offensive lineman No. 1 in 10 years and are usually reluctant to give up two picks for one, but they believe Walker is one of the best offensive left tackle prospects they have ever graded. He will step into a spot held last year by **Pete Pierson** and **George Hegamin**, who now provide experienced backup help for Walker and right tackle **Jerry Wunsch**. With **Randall McDaniel** still going strong at 36, the Bucs plan to move young **Cosey Coleman** into departed Frank Middleton's spot at right



TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	290.6 21	TOTAL DEFENSE	300.0 9
RUSHING	129.1 9	AGAINST RUSH	103.0 9
PASSING	161.4 26	AGAINST PASS	197.0 13
SCORING	388 6T	PTS. ALLOWED	269 7T
PUNT RETURNS	8.6 20T	INTERCEPTIONS	25 3T
KICK RETURNS	22.8 9T	SACKS	55 2T
RED ZONE TD %	57.4 6	TURNOVER DIFF.	+17 3T



MARCUS JONES
13 SACKS 50 TACKLES



Brad Johnson's (left) presence on the scene gives Tampa Bay a time-tested NFL quarterback. The former Florida State signal-caller will try to hook up with ex-Florida receiver Jacquez Green (51 receptions) and improve the Bucs' No. 26 rank in NFL passing offense.

guard. Jeff Christy remains the center. Todd Washington and Kendall Mack are backups.

Rice spices up defensive stew

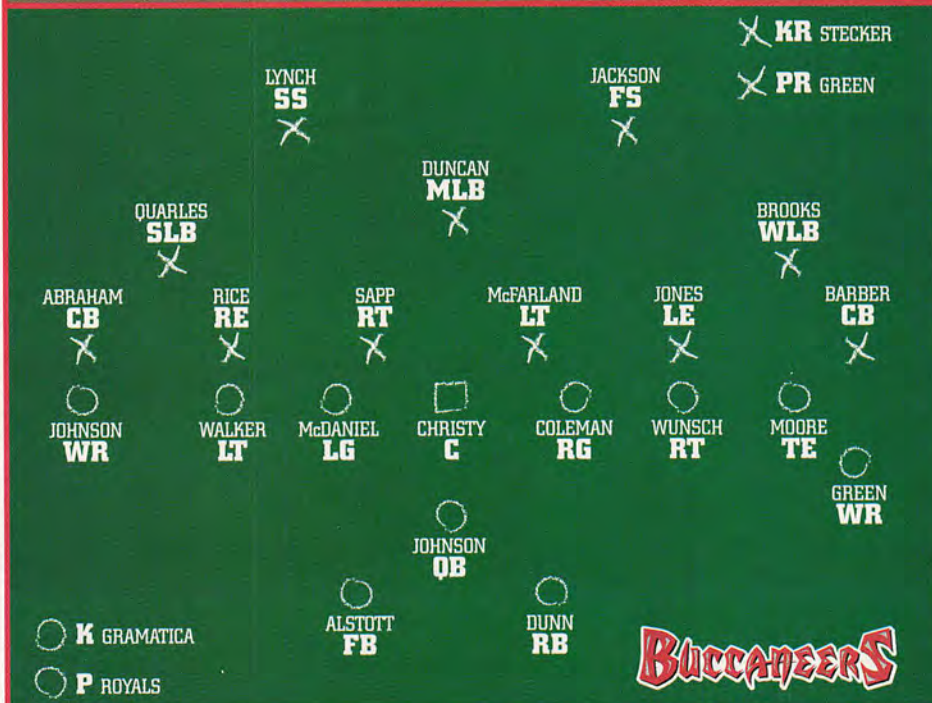
The signing of high-priced free agent Simeon Rice hopefully gives Dungy the edge rusher he has sought to complement the strong inside push of tackles Warren Sapp and Anthony McFarland. Although Rice has gained a reputation for ignoring the run, the Bucs were satisfied enough to release left defensive end Chidi Ahanotu and move right end Marcus Jones to the left side

to make room for Rice full-time. John McLaughlin could help Rice at end.

Stopping the run is the work of line-backer Derrick Brooks and friends. Nobody tackles better than Brooks, who flies to the ball along with middle linebacker Jamie Duncan and outside backer Shelton Quarles. The Bucs are going to give Nate Webster a chance to see if he can push Duncan out of a starting job.

Retaining cornerback Ronde Barber keeps the Bucs solid in the secondary. Barber and Donnie Abraham form a good

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 21-16	at New England
09/10	W 41-0	Chicago
09/17	W 31-10	at Detroit
09/24	L 17-21	New York Jets
10/01	L 17-21	at Washington
10/09	L 17-20 OT	at Minnesota
10/19	L 23-30	Detroit
10/29	W 14-28	Minnesota
11/05	W 27-14	at Atlanta
11/12	W 20-15	Green Bay
11/19	L 10-13	at Chicago
11/26	W 31-17	Buffalo
12/03	W 27-7	Dallas
12/10	W 16-13	at Miami
12/18	W 38-35	St. Louis
12/24	L 14-17 OT	at Green Bay

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Dunn	248	1133	4.6	70t	8
Alstott	131	465	3.5	20t	5
King	73	353	4.8	19	5
Abdullah	16	70	4.4	19	0
Stecker	12	31	2.6	14	0
Green	5	13	2.6	6	0
Johnson	2	5	2.5	3	0
Team	490	2066	4.2	70t	18
Opponents	398	1648	4.1	50t	12

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Johnson	71	874	12.3	38	8
Green	51	773	15.2	75	1
Dunn	44	422	9.6	45	1
Moore	29	288	9.9	28	3
Anthony	15	232	15.5	46t	4
Alstott	13	93	7.2	21	0
Hape	6	39	6.5	13	0
Abdullah	2	14	7.0	11	0
Williams	2	35	17.5	27	0
Robinson	1	36	36.0	36	0
Stecker	1	15	15.0	15	0
McDaniel	1	2	2.0	2t	1
Yoder	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	237	2824	11.9	75	18
Opponents	339	3484	10.3	72t	15

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
King	428	233	2769	18	13
Royals	1	1	36	0	0
Zeier	3	3	19	0	0
Alstott	1	0	0	0	0
Team	433	237	2824	18	13
Opponents	594	339	3484	15	25

SACKS

Sapp 16.5, Jones 13.0, McFarland 6.5, Barber 5.5, Ahanotu 3.5, Cannida 2.0, Jackson 2.0, Quarles 2.0, White 2.0, Brooks 1.0, Lynch 1.0

Team 55.0, Opponents 38.0



tandem in Dungy's zone system. **Floyd Young** and **Brian Kelly** are the backups. Pro Bowl safety **John Lynch** is an enforcer in the middle and **Dexter Jackson** will replace departed free safety **Damien Robinson**. Draft choices **Dwight Smith** and **John Howell** will help the depth.

Automatica Gramatica

Gramatica is one of the league's best young kickers. **Mark Royals** is coming off a very good year punting. The Bucs need to improve their kick returning. **Williams** does both, with help from **Aaron Stecker** on kickoffs. The Bucs have existed for 25 years now without ever returning a kickoff for a touchdown. Like their Super Bowl quest, could this be the year? ■



Warren Sapp (top left), **Anthony McFarland** (top right) and **Derrick Brooks** helped the Bucs finish fourth in the NFC in total defense last season.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Tony Dungy, head coach

Mark Asanovich, strength and conditioning; **Clyde Christensen**, quarterbacks/offensive coordinator; **Chris Foerster**, offensive line; **Monte Kiffin**, defensive coordinator; **Joe Marciano**, special teams; **Rod Marinelli**, defensive line; **Tony Nathan**, running backs; **Kevin O'Dea**, defensive assistant; **Ricky Thomas**, tight ends; **Charlie Williams**, wide receivers

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
14	Johnson, Brad	QB 6-5	224	09/13/68	7	Florida State
16	Leaf, Ryan	QB 6-5	235	05/15/76	2	Washington State
10	King, Shaun	QB 6-0	225	05/29/77	2	Tulane
	Hamilton, Joe	QB 5-10	190	03/13/77	1	Georgia Tech

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
64	McDaniel, Randall	G 6-3	287	12/19/64	13	Arizona State
62	Christy, Jeff	C 6-2	285	02/03/69	8	Pittsburgh
79	Hegamin, George	T 6-7	331	02/14/73	6	North Carolina State
69	Pierson, Pete	T 6-5	315	02/04/71	6	Washington
71	Wunsch, Jerry	T 6-6	339	01/21/74	4	Wisconsin
75	Washington, Todd	C 6-3	324	07/19/76	3	Virginia Tech
60	Brown, Wilbert	G 6-2	310	05/09/77	1	Houston
60	Coleman, Cosey	G 6-4	322	10/27/78	1	Tennessee
76	Curry, DeMarcus	T 6-5	332	04/30/75	0	Auburn

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
40	Alstott, Mike	RB 6-1	248	12/21/73	5	Purdue
28	Dunn, Warrick	RB 5-8	180	01/05/75	4	Florida State
27	Abdullah, Rahib	RB 6-1	227	04/27/75	2	Lehigh
22	Stecker, Aaron	RB 5-10	205	11/13/75	1	Western Illinois
48	Kirby, Charles	RB 6-1	249	11/27/74	1	Virginia

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
83	Moore, Dave	TE 6-2	258	11/11/69	9	Pittsburgh
19	Johnson, Keyshawn	WR 6-4	212	07/22/72	5	Southern California
86	Williams, Karl	WR 5-10	177	04/10/71	5	Texas A&M-Kingsville
85	Anthony, Reidel	WR 5-11	180	10/20/76	4	Florida
81	Green, Jacques	WR 5-9	168	01/15/76	3	Florida
48	Vaughn, Damian	TE 6-4	252	06/14/75	0	Miami (OH)
89	Palmer, Randy	TE 6-4	235	11/12/75	1	Texas A&M-Kingsville
87	Murphy, Frank	WR 6-0	200	02/11/77	1	Kansas State
80	Yoder, Todd	TE 6-4	234	03/18/78	1	Vanderbilt

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
99	Sapp, Warren	DT 6-2	303	12/19/72	6	Miami (FL)
78	Jones, Marcus	DE 6-6	278	08/15/73	5	North Carolina
97	Rice, Simeon	DE 6-5	268	02/24/74	5	Illinois
94	White, Steve	DE 6-2	271	10/25/73	5	Tennessee
98	Cannida, James	DT 6-2	291	01/03/75	3	Nevada
92	McFarland, Anthony	NT 6-0	300	12/18/77	2	LSU
95	McLaughlin, John	DE 6-4	247	11/13/75	2	California

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
47	Lynch, John	S 6-2	220	09/25/71	8	Stanford
21	Abraham, Donnie	CB 5-10	192	10/08/73	5	East Tennessee State
20	Barber, Ronde	CB 5-10	184	04/07/75	4	Virginia
25	Kelly, Brian	CB 5-11	193	01/14/76	3	Southern California
33	Vance, Eric	S 6-2	218	07/14/75	3	Vanderbilt
34	Jackson, Dexter	S 6-0	196	07/28/77	2	Florida State
30	Midget, Anthony	CB 5-11	193	02/22/78	0	Virginia Tech
46	Gibson, David	S 6-1	210	11/05/77	1	Southern California

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Brooks, Derrick	LB 6-0	235	04/18/73	6	Florida State
51	Singleton, A.	LB 6-2	228	08/07/75	4	Temple
53	Quarles, Shelton	LB 6-1	230	09/11/71	4	Vanderbilt
98	Warner, Ron	LB 6-3	230	09/26/75	1	Kansas
59	Duncan, Jamie	LB 6-0	242	07/20/75	3	Vanderbilt
54	Waddy, Jude	LB 6-2	228	09/12/75	2	William & Mary
52	Webster, Nate	LB 5-11	225	11/29/77	1	Miami (FL)

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
3	Royals, Mark	P 6-5	215	06/22/65	12	Appalachian State
7	Gramatica, Martin	K 5-8	170	11/27/75	2	Kansas State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	14	Walker, Kenyatta	T	6-5	311	02/01/79	Florida
3	22	Smith, Dwight	CB	5-10	212	08/13/78	Akron
4	22	Howell, John	S	5-11	202	04/28/78	Colorado State
5	20	Hochstein, Russ	G	6-3	300	10/07/77	Nebraska
6	11	Cook, Jameel	RB	5-10	225	02/08/79	Illinois
6	20	Wynms, Ellis	DT	6-3	282	04/12/79	Mississippi State
7	5	Finger, Dauntae	TE	6-3	258	04/05/77	North Carolina
7	23	Merril, Than	S	6-3	220	12/12/77	Yale
7	34	Tafoya, Joe	DT	6-4	270	09/06/77	Arizona

*All times Eastern

2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	at Dallas	1:00
WEEK 2	9/16	PHILADELPHIA	1:00
WEEK 3	9/23	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 4	9/30	at Minnesota	1:00
WEEK 5	10/7	GREEN BAY	4:15
WEEK 6	10/14	at Tennessee	1:00
WEEK 7	10/21	PITTSBURGH	1:00
WEEK 8	10/28	MINNESOTA	1:00
WEEK 9	11/4	at Green Bay	1:00
WEEK 10	11/11	at Detroit	1:00
WEEK 11	11/18	CHICAGO	1:00
WEEK 12	11/26	at St. Louis	9:00
WEEK 13	12/2	at Cincinnati	1:00
WEEK 14	12/9	DETROIT	1:00
WEEK 15	12/16	at Chicago	1:00
WEEK 16	12/23	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
WEEK 17	12/29	BALTIMORE	9:00

Momentum carry-over from 2000, a little luck and a lot of Favre could get Pack back to playoffs.

Down the stretch last season, the Packers beat all four of their NFC Central Division rivals to finish a respectable 9-7 and give themselves a solid dose of confidence entering 2001. If momentum carries over, the Packers have their share of it. According to quarterback **Brett Favre**, the last four games convinced him the team could become a surprise in the NFC this year.

With Favre, nobody should be surprised. The Packers always will be dangerous so long as the quarterback keeps his uncanny playing streak going in his 10th season as a starter. General Manager Ron Wolf, who brought him to Green Bay in a trade with Atlanta, retired in the offseason with one regret: He said he should have surrounded Favre with better offensive weapons.

Injury robbed the Packers of key offensive component **Dorsey Levens** last season, and wide receiver **Antonio Freeman** looks like he's on the down side of his career. Rookie tight end **Bubba Franks** wasn't ready to take over for Mark Chmura, who was released by the club before his highly publicized trial and acquittal for sexual assault.

How Favre can he take them?

Still, Favre was able to rebound from a subpar 2000 season under coach Ray Rhodes and hang in until the satisfying finish. His 20 touchdown passes were a seven-year low, but he cut down on interceptions and demonstrated his usual leadership. His remarkable starting streak, now at 141 games, is more like a place-kicker than a quarterback. His durability is more important than ever this season because the Packers traded promising backup Matt Hasselbeck to Seattle, just as they did Aaron Brooks to New Orleans the previous year.

They re-signed **Doug Pederson** and convinced CFL quarterback **Henry Burris** (Saskatchewan) to take a shot at the NFL, but nobody in Packerland kids himself. The Packers go as Favre goes.

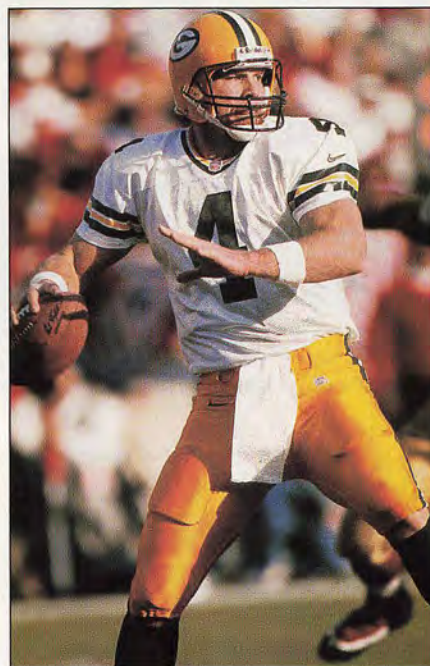
Adding help is crucial in coach Mike Sherman's second season. The Packers think the healthy return of Levens will go a long way. While speedy backup **Ahman Green** improved steadily into a legitimate NFL back, Levens provides more in the passing game and is a key to everything the Packers like to do on offense. The Packers hope a one-two punch of Green and Levens can give them what Levens and Edgar Bennett provided in 1996, when the Packers coincidentally won the Super Bowl. **William Henderson** returns as a solid fullback.

Wanted: Breakthrough receiver

Receiver is a major concern because Freeman has not matched his 1998 performance and has shown a penchant for off-field trouble. Wolf always has been good at finding receivers in the second and third rounds, like Freeman and Robert Brooks, so there are high expectations of second-round pick **Robert Ferguson** from Texas A&M. There is also hope that young prospects like **Donald Driver**, **Charles Lee**, **Corey Bradford** and **Anthony Lucas** can step out of nowhere and push **Bill Schroeder** and Freeman for playing time.

Franks caught 34 passes for only one touchdown—not enough in the Packer offense—so he is expected to make significant strides between his first and second seasons. **Tyrone Davis** is a receiving threat at tight end, too, if he loses weight.

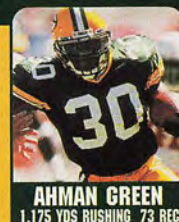
The offensive line will change after the loss of left guard Ross Verba to Cleveland. His departure was expected, but the spot has not been filled. The plan is to let second-year tackle **Mark Tauscher** have a shot, provided right tackle **Earl Dotson** recovers from back



Quarterback Brett Favre is expecting the return of a healthy Dorsey Levens (bottom) to open things up for the Packer offense this season.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK		TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	
TOTAL OFFENSE	332.6	15	TOTAL DEFENSE	316.8	15
RUSHING	102.7	23	AGAINST RUSH	101.1	8
PASSING	229.9	8	AGAINST PASS	215.7	19
SCORING	353	11	PTS. ALLOWED	323	14
PUNT RETURNS	8.6	20T	INTERCEPTIONS	21	6T
KICK RETURNS	24.5	3	SACKS	38	18T
RED ZONE TD %	49.1	13	TURNOVER DIFF.	-5	20T



AHMAN GREEN
1,175 YDS RUSHING 73 REC



Wide receivers Antonio Freeman (left) and Bill Schroeder and rookie tight end Bubba Franks (center) helped the Green Bay offense rank eighth in NFL passing last year.

problems sufficiently to reclaim his job. Tauscher filled in admirably as a rookie, and fellow rookie **Chad Clifton** nailed down the left tackle job. **Marco Rivera** is the right guard and **Mike Flanagan** will be given every opportunity to unseat veteran **Frank Winters** at center. If fourth-round pick **Bill Ferrario** of Wisconsin is as good as fellow Badger Tauscher, he will start at left guard. **Mike Wahle** is a backup at tackle and guard.

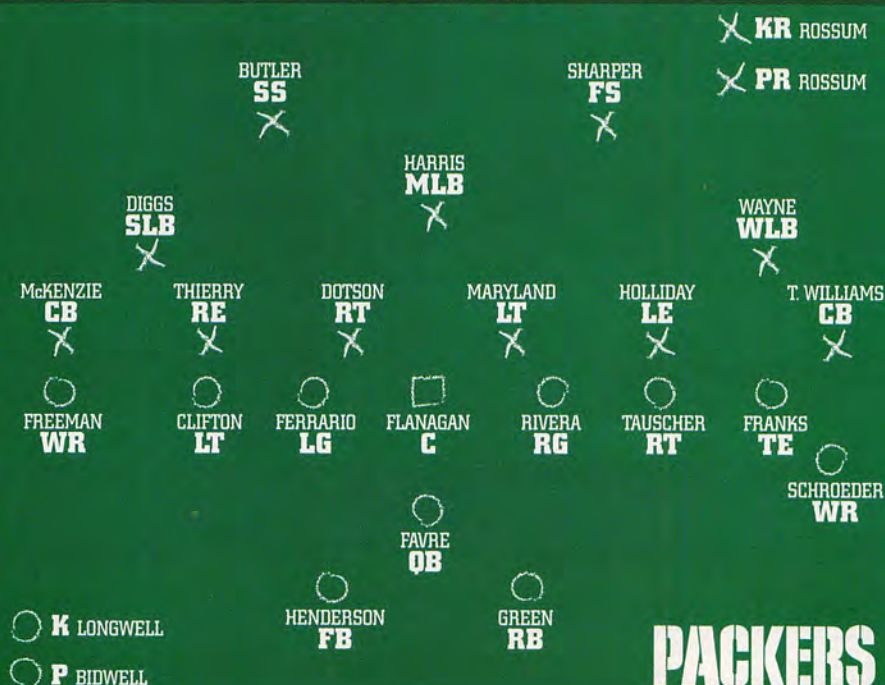
Draft injects pass rush

Wolf wanted to add a pass rusher to a defensive line that still misses Reggie White

badly. Florida State's **Jamal Reynolds**, Green Bay's first-round pick, was the fastest pure pass rusher of the draft's lot. Even if he can't play every down, he should contribute immediately as a situation rusher on a team where **John Thierry's** 6.5 sacks were tops.

The Packers also re-signed nose tackle **Gilbert Brown**, who ate himself out of the league in 2000 but can still hold his own as a run-stuffer. **Santana Dotson** is coming off a quadriceps injury and so is second-year prospect **Steve Warren**—the Packers need all the help they can get inside. Steady **Russell Maryland** returns and **Billy Lyon**

PROJECTED STARTERS



PACKERS

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 16-20	New York Jets
09/10	L 18-27	at Buffalo
09/17	W 6-3	Philadelphia
09/24	W 29-3	at Arizona
10/01	L 24-27	Chicago
10/08	L 24-31	at Detroit
10/15	W 31-28	San Francisco
10/29	L 20-28	at Miami
11/06	W 26-20 OT	Minnesota
11/12	L 15-20	at Tampa Bay
11/19	W 26-24	Indianapolis
11/27	L 14-31	at Carolina
12/03	W 28-6	at Chicago
12/10	W 26-13	Detroit
12/17	W 33-28	at Minnesota
12/24	W 17-14	Tampa Bay

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Green	263	1175	4.5	39t	10
Levens	77	224	2.9	17	3
Favre	27	108	4.0	18	0
Parker	18	85	4.7	24	0
Henderson	2	16	8.0	12	0
Rossum	1	16	16.0	16	0
Schroeder	2	11	5.5	12	0
Mitchell	2	8	4.0	4	0
Freeman	2	5	2.5	3	0
Driver	1	4	4.0	4	0
Team	404	1643	4.1	39t	13
Opponents	417	1618	3.9	52	7

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Green	73	559	7.7	31	3
Schroeder	65	999	15.4	55t	4
Freeman	62	912	14.7	67t	9
Henderson	35	234	6.7	25	1
Franks	34	363	10.7	27t	1
Driver	21	322	15.3	49	1
Davis	19	177	9.3	41	2
Levens	16	146	9.1	37	0
Lee	10	134	13.4	38	0
Parker	9	50	5.6	10	0
Wetnight	3	20	6.7	9	0
Goodman	1	0	0	0	0
Team	348	3916	11.3	67t	21
Opponents	307	3695	12.0	78t	28

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Favre	580	338	3812	20	16
Hasselbeck	19	10	104	1	0
Green	1	0	0	0	0
Team	600	348	3916	21	16
Opponents	557	307	3695	28	21

SACKS

Thierry 6.5, Dotson 6.0, Holliday 5.0, Lyon 5.0, Bowens 3.5, Hunt 3.5, Butler 2.0, Harris 2.0, Wayne 2.0, Sharper 1.0, Gbaja-Biamila 1.0

Team 38.0, Opponents 34.0

adds depth. **Vonnie Holliday** and **Cletidus Hunt** are the left ends, with **Thierry**, **David Bowens** and **Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila** on the other side.

Nate Wayne replaced injured and departed **Brian Williams** at linebacker. With **Bernardo Harris** and second-year starter **Na'il Diggs**, the Packers remain thin at linebacker, so the addition of third-rounder **Torrance Marshall** of Oklahoma was vital.

Safety **Darren Sharper** had a breakthrough season and led the league in interceptions, giving the Packers a solid middle with veteran **LeRoy Butler**. **Scott McGarrahan** is a backup. Wolf added Penn State cornerback **Bhawoh Jue** in the draft's third round to join holdovers **Antuan Edwards** and **Tod McBride** behind starters **Mike McKenzie** and **Tyrone Williams**.

Re-signing placekicker **Ryan Longwell** was a good move. Punter **Josh Bidwell** will get training-camp competition. **Allen Rossum** is one of the better combination kickoff and punt return men.

Darren Sharper, who had nine interceptions last year, and LeRoy Butler (right) give the Packers one of the best safety duos in the NFL.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
WEEK 1	9/9	DETROIT	1:00
WEEK 2	9/16	at N.Y. Giants	1:00
WEEK 3	9/24	WASHINGTON	8:00
WEEK 4	9/30	at Carolina	1:00
WEEK 5	10/7	at Tampa Bay	4:15
WEEK 6	10/14	BALTIMORE	1:00
WEEK 7	10/21	at Minnesota	4:15
WEEK 8	10/28	OPEN DATE	
WEEK 9	11/4	TAMPA BAY	1:00
WEEK 10	11/11	at Chicago	1:00
WEEK 11	11/18	ATLANTA	1:00
WEEK 12	11/22	at Detroit	12:30
WEEK 13	12/3	at Jacksonville	9:00
WEEK 14	12/9	CHICAGO	1:00
WEEK 15	12/16	at Tennessee	4:15
WEEK 16	12/23	CLEVELAND	1:00
WEEK 17	12/30	MINNESOTA	1:00

*All times Eastern

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Mike Sherman, head coach

Larry Beightol, offensive line; Darrell Bevell, offensive assistant/quality control; Sylvester Croom, running backs; Brad Miller, defensive assistant/quality control; Ed Donatell, defensive coordinator; Jetho Franklin, defensive line; Jeff Jagodzinski, tight ends; Frank Novak, special teams; Bo Pelini, linebackers coach; Tom Rossley, offensive coordinator; Barry Rubin, strength and conditioning; Ray Sherman, wide receivers; Bob Slowik, defensive backs; Lionel Washington, assistant defensive backs; Mark Lovat, assistant strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Favre, Brett	QB 6-2	225	10/10/69	10	Southern Mississippi
18	Pederson, Doug	QB 6-3	216	01/31/68	6	Northeast Louisiana
10	Burris, Henry	QB 6-1	195	06/04/75	0	Temple
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Winters, Frank	C 6-3	305	01/23/64	14	Western Illinois
72	Dotson, Earl	T 6-4	317	12/17/70	8	Texas A&I
58	Flanagan, Mike	C 6-5	297	11/10/73	3	UCLA
62	Rivera, Marco	G 6-4	310	04/26/72	4	Penn State
60	Davis, Robert	C 6-3	286	12/10/68	5	Shippensburg
75	Rountree, Glenn	G 6-3	304	11/24/73	0	Clemson
68	Wahle, Mike	T 6-6	310	03/29/77	3	Navy
79	Stokes, Barry	T 6-4	315	12/20/73	2	Eastern Michigan
61	Curry, Scott	T 6-5	300	12/25/75	1	Montana
76	Clifton, Chad	T 6-5	325	06/26/76	1	Tennessee
69	Mercier, Richard	T 6-3	300	05/13/75	0	Miami (FL)
65	Tauscher, Mark	T 6-3	313	06/17/77	1	Wisconsin
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
25	Levens, Dorsey	RB 6-1	230	05/21/70	7	Georgia Tech
33	Henderson, William	RB 6-1	253	02/19/71	6	North Carolina
30	Green, Ahman	RB 6-0	217	02/16/77	3	Nebraska
22	Parker, De'Mond	RB 5-10	185	12/24/76	2	Oklahoma
28	Mitchell, Basil	RB 5-10	207	09/07/75	2	Texas Christian
44	Snider, Matt	RB 6-2	240	01/26/76	2	Richmond
32	Mealey, Rondell	RB 6-0	219	02/24/77	0	LSU
29	Goodman, Herbert	RB 5-11	203	08/31/77	1	Graceland College
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Schroeder, Bill	WR 6-3	205	01/09/71	4	Wisconsin-La Crosse
81	Davis, Tyrone	TE 6-4	260	06/30/72	6	Virginia
86	Freeman, Antonio	WR 6-1	198	05/27/72	6	Virginia Tech
85	Bradford, Corey	WR 6-1	197	12/08/75	3	Jackson State
80	Driver, Donald	WR 6-0	177	02/02/75	2	Alcorn State
88	Franks, Bubba	TE 6-6	260	01/06/78	1	Miami (FL)
82	Lee, Charles	WR 6-2	202	11/19/77	1	Central Florida
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
67	Maryland, Russell	NT 6-1	308	03/22/69	10	Miami (FL)
71	Dotson, Santana	DT 6-5	285	12/19/69	9	Baylor
93	Brown, Gilbert	NT 6-2	345	02/22/71	7	Kansas
91	Thierry, John	DE 6-4	262	09/04/71	7	Alcorn State
90	Holliday, Vonnie	DE 6-5	290	12/11/75	3	North Carolina
98	Lyon, Billy	DE 6-5	295	12/10/73	3	Marshall
97	Hunt, Cletidus	DE 6-4	299	01/02/76	2	Kent State
96	Bowens, David	DE 6-2	261	07/03/77	2	Western Illinois
95	Warren, Steve	DT 6-1	298	01/22/78	1	Nebraska
94	Gbaja-Biamila, K.	DE 6-4	245	09/24/77	1	San Diego State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Butler, LeRoy	S 6-0	203	07/19/68	11	Florida State
37	Williams, Tyrone	CB 5-11	193	05/31/73	5	Nebraska
42	Sharper, Darren	S 6-2	205	11/03/75	4	William & Mary
43	McGarrahan, Scott	S 6-1	198	02/12/74	3	New Mexico
27	Darden, Tony	CB 6-0	190	08/11/75	1	Texas Tech
20	Rossum, Allen	CB 5-8	178	10/22/75	3	Notre Dame
24	Edwards, Antuan	CB 6-1	205	05/26/77	2	Clemson
34	McKenzie, Mike	CB 6-0	185	04/26/76	2	Memphis
21	Akins, Chris	S 5-11	195	11/29/76	2	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
27	McBride, Tod	CB 6-1	207	01/26/76	2	UCLA
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Harris, Bernardo	LB 6-2	246	10/15/71	6	North Carolina
54	Wayne, Nate	LB 6-0	230	01/12/75	3	Mississippi
50	Williams, K.D.	LB 6-0	235	04/21/73	2	Henderson State
59	Diggs, Na'il	LB 6-4	234	07/08/78	1	Ohio State
56	McCaslin, Eugene	LB 6-1	226	07/12/77	1	Florida
57	Gizzi, Chris	LB 6-0	230	03/08/75	1	Air Force
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Longwell, Ryan	K 6-0	198	08/16/74	4	California
9	Bidwell, Josh	P 6-3	222	03/13/76	1	Oregon

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	10	Reynolds, Jamal	DE	6-3	267	02/20/79	Florida State
2	10	Ferguson, Robert	WR	6-1	205	12/17/79	Texas A&M
3	9	Jue, Bhawoh	CB	6-0	190	05/24/79	Penn State
3	10	Marshall, Torrance	LB	6-2	245	06/12/77	Oklahoma
4	10	Ferrario, Bill	G	6-2	311	09/22/78	Wisconsin
6	35	Martin, David	WR	6-3	240	03/13/79	Tennessee



New sheriff in Motown, Matt Millen, has his hands full as a rookie CEO.

There is a new attitude in Detroit this year. At least that's what new boss Matt Millen is demanding. If he doesn't see it by midseason, the former middle linebacker and television commentator-turned-executive might end up in the huddle. He saw how teams got to Super Bowls while playing for the Raiders, 49ers and Redskins, experience enough for the Ford family to hire him.

Mornhinweg in Mid-America

New coach Marty Mornhinweg arrived from the San Francisco 49ers with new ideas and the hope of installing a new offense.

Unlike the stereotypical West Coast style, there will be very little finesse involved.

The Lions have the look of a power-running team with **James Stewart** operating behind a gigantic line.

The Lions' biggest question mark remains the health and development of quarterback **Charlie Batch**, who has yet to shake the injury jinx after his third pro season.

So concerned were the Lions about the future of Batch that they actively inquired about the availability of Jacksonville quarterback Mark Brunell during the offseason.

The Lions are perennial door-knockers, always on the threshold and never able to take the final step. In Millen's mind, it's time to break the door down. If Batch can't get it done, the Lions will continue their pursuit of a quarterback who can. They drafted interesting Rutgers prospect **Mike McMahon** in the fifth round. Mornhinweg is given credit for turning undrafted Canadian Leaguer Jeff Garcia into one of the league's top passers in San Francisco. Veteran **Jim Harbaugh** also was added to speed the development of Batch and play in an emergency. In three seasons now, Batch has failed to finish and there are questions about whether his body can take much more punishment.

Spurned by Barry—again

Millen and Mornhinweg knocked on running back Barry Sanders' door to see if he wanted to return and got another "no" for an answer. But the door remains open. Stewart gained 1,184 yards in his first season as Sanders' replacement. While that was credible, Stewart's 3.5-yard average was the lowest among all 1,000-yard rushers last season—not that he was ever going to make Detroit fans forget Sanders with his breakaway ability. **Mario Bates** is useful in short yardage. **Sedrick Irvin**, **Reuben Droughns** and **Lamont Warren** lend depth. Droughns missed his rookie season with a shoulder injury. **Cory Schlesinger** is a solid blocking fullback.

Fourth-year man Charlie Batch is now entrenched as the Lion QB, starting 15 games last season.

The Lions want to get more from receivers **Germane Crowell**, **Johnnie Morton** and **Herman Moore**, so they brought in Jerry Rice for a talk about future employment. Moore could become a salary-cap casualty, and young **Larry Foster** affords the best depth. Tight end **David Sloan** could become a more valuable weapon in



James Stewart proved to be an adequate free-agent replacement for the retired Barry Sanders, rushing for a career-high 1,184 yards and 10 TDs.

Mornhinweg's offense, which added pass-catching tight end **Pete Mitchell**. Morton, Crowell and Moore scored only three touchdowns apiece last season—not enough. Crowell missed most of the season with a broken foot. Draft choice **Scotty Anderson** from Grambling is another tall prospect in the mold of Moore and Crowell. **Brian Stablein** is a reliable backup.

After losing guard Jeff Hartings to Pittsburgh in free agency, the Lions believe they won't skip a beat after drafting Michigan's **Jeff Backus** and Nebraska's **Dominic Raiola** in the first two rounds. Backus is expected to start at left tackle with second-year man **Stockar McDougle** moving to right tackle and right tackle **Aaron Gibson**

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	276.4 27	TOTAL DEFENSE	314.6 14
RUSHING	109.2 20	AGAINST RUSH	113.9 18
PASSING	167.2 25	AGAINST PASS	200.6 15
SCORING	307 22	PTS. ALLOWED	307 11
PUNT RETURNS	14.3 3	INTERCEPTIONS	25 31
KICK RETURNS	23.2 8	SACKS	28 25
RED ZONE TD %	44.4 23	TURNOVER DIFF.	+11 7



DAVID SLOAN
32 RECEPTIONS 379 YARDS



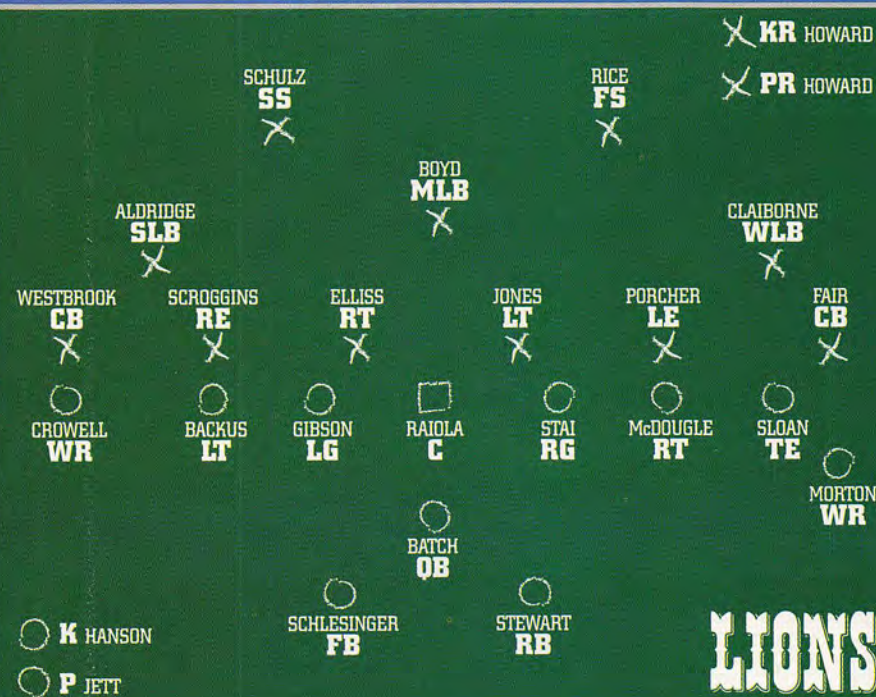
Veteran wideout Johnnie Morton (left) turned in another efficient performance with a team-high 61 catches in 2000, while Germane Crowell battled injuries and registered just 34 catches.

shifting to left guard. McDougle weighs 350 and Gibson is 380, but both could slim down as the Lions strive for a tougher image. Gibson has fought shoulder injuries. **Brendan Stai** was signed from Jacksonville to take Hartings' spot at right guard. Raiola will push **Eric Beverly** to start at center. **Kerlin Blaise** and **Andy Vincent** are backups.

Defensive end **Robert Porcher** has vowed to rebound from a subpar season of

eight sacks following an unhappy contract experience. His value as a leader and player to new defensive coordinator Vince Tobin cannot be overstated. With a rejuvenated Porcher, tackles **Luther Elliss** and **James Jones** and end **Tracy Scroggins**, the Lions have a very good front four. **Jared DeVries** and **James Hall** both could push Scroggins. Second-round draft choice **Shaun Rogers** of Texas arrives with an injured ankle, but was a

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 14-10	at New Orleans
09/10	W 15-10	Washington
09/17	L 10-31	Tampa Bay
09/24	W 21-14	at Chicago
10/01	L 24-31	Minnesota
10/08	W 31-24	Green Bay
10/19	W 28-14	at Tampa Bay
10/29	L 18-30	at Indianapolis
11/05	L 8-23	Miami
11/12	W 13-10	Atlanta
11/19	W 31-21	at New York Giants
11/23	W 34-9	New England
11/30	L 17-24	at Minnesota
12/10	L 13-26	at Green Bay
12/17	W 10-7	at New York Giants
12/24	L 20-23	Chicago

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Stewart	339	1184	3.5	34	10
Batch	44	199	4.5	19	2
Bates	31	127	4.1	23	2
Case	16	117	7.3	27	1
Irvin	9	49	5.4	32	0
Foster	2	31	15.5	16	0
Morton	4	25	6.2	27	0
Crowell	1	12	12.0	12	0
Schlesinger	1	3	3.0	3	0
Jett	1	0	0	0	0

Team	448	1747	3.9	34	15
Opponents	421	1823	4.3	65t	14

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Morton	61	788	12.9	42t	3
Moore	40	434	10.9	30t	3
Crowell	34	430	12.6	50t	3
Sloan	32	379	11.8	59	2
Stewart	32	287	9.0	32	1
Foster	17	175	10.3	40t	1
Bates	15	109	7.3	17	0
Schlesinger	12	73	6.1	13	0
Rasby	10	78	7.8	17	1
Irvin	8	90	11.2	18	0
Stablein	8	53	6.6	11	0
Olivo	3	50	16.7	19	0
Pupunu	3	32	10.7	17	0
Howard	2	14	7.0	10	0

Team	277	2992	10.8	59	14
Opponents	311	3372	10.8	61t	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Batch	412	221	2489	13	15
Case	91	56	503	1	4
Team	503	277	2992	14	19
Opponents	544	311	3372	16	25

SACKS

Porcher 8.0, Scroggins 6.5, Elliss 3.0, Pritchett 2.5, Jones 3.0, Aldridge 2.0, Boyd 0.5, Brown 0.5, Hall 1.0, Claiborne 0.5, Kirschke 0.5

Team 28.0, Opponent 53.0



Since 1996, Robert Porcher's 57 sacks are the most of any active NFL player. At right, new Lions coach Marty Mornhinweg.

first-round talent who should help as soon as he's healthy. Kelvin Pritchett also is an experienced inside player.

Linebacker one of few strengths

Stephen Boyd is one of the league's best middle linebackers. Flanked by Allen Aldridge and Chris Claiborne, Boyd directs a solid group that includes veteran backup Scott Kowalkowski and second-year prospect Barrett Green. Like Moore, the Lions want Aldridge to restructure his contract.

The secondary is a concern because of the Achilles injury to cornerback Bryant Westbrook, who was enjoying an outstanding season until sidelined last year. The addition of Rams veteran Todd Lyght will help. Terry Fair starts at right corner. Kurt Schulz and Ron Rice are the safeties. The retirements of Corwin Brown and Kevin Abrams hurt the secondary depth, where Kywin Supernaw and Lamar Campbell lead the prospects.

Punter John Jett and placekicker Jason Hanson are solid. Desmond Howard is back as an excellent return specialist.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Green Bay	1:00
2	9/16	DALLAS	1:00
3	9/23	at Cleveland	1:00
4	9/30	OPEN DATE	
5	10/8	ST. LOUIS	9:00
6	10/14	at Minnesota	1:00
7	10/21	TENNESSEE	1:00
8	10/28	CINCINNATI	1:00
9	11/4	at San Francisco	4:05
10	11/11	TAMPA BAY	1:00
11	11/18	at Arizona	4:15
12	11/22	GREEN BAY	12:30
13	12/2	at Chicago	1:00
14	12/9	at Tampa Bay	1:00
15	12/16	MINNESOTA	1:00
16	12/23	at Pittsburgh	1:00
17	12/30	CHICAGO	1:00

*All times Eastern

DETROIT LIONS

Marty Mornhinweg, head coach

Don Clemons, defensive assistant; Chuck Priefer, special teams; Richard Selcer, defensive backs; Maurice Carthon, running backs; Carl Mauck, offensive line; Vince Tobin, defensive coordinator; Kevin Higgins, quarterbacks; Bill Young, defensive line coach; Sean Kugler, tight ends; Larry Kirksey, receivers; Glenn Pires, linebackers; Jason Arapoff, strength and conditioning; Malcolm Blacker, assistant strength and conditioning; Mike McHugh, offensive quality control; Charles Haley, pass rush specialist

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Harbaugh, Jim	QB 6-3	215	12/23/63	14	Michigan
10	Batch, Charlie	QB 6-2	220	05/05/74	3	Eastern Michigan
16	Sauter, Cory	QB 6-4	215	11/21/74	1	Minnesota
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
73	Joyce, Matt	G 6-7	307	03/30/72	6	Richmond
74	Atkins, James	T 5-8	306	01/28/70	7	Southwestern Louisiana
68	Stai, Brenden	G 6-5	305	03/30/72	6	Nebraska
79	Beverly, Eric	C 6-3	294	03/28/74	3	Miami (OH)
65	Blaise, Kerlin	G 6-5	323	12/25/74	2	Miami (FL)
71	Gibson, Aaron	T 6-4	380	09/27/77	1	Wisconsin
73	McDougle, Stockar	G 6-6	350	01/11/77	1	Oklahoma
70	Vincent, Andy	T 6-4	306	06/11/78	0	Texas A&M
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Lee, Amp	RB 5-11	197	10/01/71	9	Florida State
27	Warren, Lamont	RB 5-11	211	01/04/73	6	Colorado
34	Stewart, James	RB 6-1	226	12/27/71	6	Tennessee
30	Schlesinger, Cory	RB 6-0	246	06/23/72	6	Nebraska
26	Olivo, Brock	RB 6-0	232	06/24/76	3	Missouri
33	Irvin, Sedrick	RB 5-11	226	03/30/78	2	Michigan State
21	Droughns, Reuben	RB 5-11	207	08/21/78	0	Oregon
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Moore, Herman	WR 6-4	224	10/20/69	10	Virginia
80	Howard, Desmond	WR 5-10	185	05/15/70	9	Michigan
81	Banta, Bradford	TE 6-6	255	12/14/70	7	Southern California
87	Morton, Johnnie	WR 6-0	190	10/07/71	7	Southern California
86	Sloan, David	TE 6-6	260	06/08/72	6	New Mexico
83	Mitchell, Pete	TE 6-2	248	10/09/71	6	Boston College
82	Crowell, Germane	WR 6-3	216	09/13/76	3	Virginia
17	Foster, Larry	WR 5-10	196	11/07/76	1	LSU
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Jones, James	NT 6-2	295	02/06/69	10	Northern Iowa
93	Pritchett, Kelvin	DT 6-3	319	10/24/69	10	Mississippi
91	Porcher, Robert	DE 6-3	282	07/30/69	9	South Carolina State
97	Scroggins, Tracy	DE 6-3	273	09/11/69	9	Tulsa
94	Elliss, Luther	DT 6-5	305	03/22/73	6	Utah
67	Krschke, Travis	DE 6-3	287	09/06/74	3	UCLA
95	DeVries, Jared	DE 6-4	280	06/11/76	2	Iowa
63	Hall, James	DE 6-2	271	02/04/77	2	Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
27	Brown, J.B.	CB 6-0	200	01/05/67	12	Maryland
41	Lyght, Todd	CB 6-0	190	02/09/69	10	Notre Dame
45	Schulz, Kurt	S 6-1	208	12/12/68	9	Eastern Washington
28	Rice, Ron	S 6-1	217	11/09/72	5	Eastern Michigan
38	Walker, Marquis	CB 5-10	185	07/06/72	5	Southeast Missouri State
32	Westbrooks, Bryant	CB 6-0	198	12/19/74	4	Texas A&M
23	Fair, Terry	CB 5-9	184	07/20/76	3	Tennessee
39	Cambell, Lamar	CB 5-11	183	08/29/75	3	Wisconsin
29	Supernaw, Kywin	S 6-1	207	06/02/75	3	Indiana
35	Wyrick, Jimmy	CB 5-9	179	12/31/76	1	Minnesota
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Kowalkowski, Scott	LB 6-2	220	08/23/68	9	Notre Dame
55	Aldridge, Allen	LB 6-1	254	05/30/72	7	Houston
57	Boyd, Stephen	LB 6-0	242	08/22/72	6	Boston College
50	Claiborne, Chris	LB 6-3	255	07/26/78	2	Southern California
58	Kriewaldt, Clint	LB 6-1	236	03/17/76	2	Wisconsin-Stevens Point
54	Green, Barrett	LB 6-0	217	10/29/77	1	West Virginia
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Hanson, Jason	K 5-11	182	06/17/70	9	Washington State
19	Jett, John	P 6-0	197	11/11/68	8	East Carolina

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	18	Backus, Jeff	T	6-5	310	09/21/77	Michigan
2	19	Raiola, Dominic	C	6-2	307	12/30/78	Nebraska
2	30	Rogers, Shaun	DT	6-4	320	03/12/79	Texas
5	17	Anderson, Scott	WR	6-2	180	—	Grambling
5	18	McMahon, Mike	QB	6-2	206	02/08/79	Rutgers
6	10	Glenn, Jason	LB	6-0	231	08/20/79	Texas A&M

Doubts, retirements, defections? It's business as usual for the Vikings' Dennis Green.

One thing the dean of NFL coaches, Dennis Green, is not afraid to do is throw young players into the fire. Nonplussed by free-agent defections or the sudden retirement of top running back Robert Smith, Green claims he is prepared again to contend for a Super Bowl that has eluded him despite eight playoff appearances in nine years.

The Vikings were blown out 41-0 in the NFC title game by the New York Giants, after which star receiver **Randy Moss** expressed doubts the Vikings would ever take the final step. Green agreed everybody was disappointed and Moss would rebound along with everybody else.

As usual, the Vikings will have a new look after losing the NFC's leading rusher plus former Pro Bowl linemen Todd Steussie on offense and John Randle on defense. The Vikings also will be playing without outstanding linebacker Dwayne Rudd, another free-agent loss.

But Green is nothing if not eternally optimistic, saying, "There is no doubt we will be better overall. We'll be better defensively, bigger, and that will help us overall."

That Wisconsin running back **Michael Bennett** fell into his lap in the draft did wonders for Green's optimism. The fastest back and one of the fastest players in the entire draft, Bennett arrives with much the same credentials and style that Smith arrived in with 1993: a track sprinter who can go the distance on any play. Bennett played only one season at Wisconsin as the replacement for Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne, but the Vikings' offense—spread with potent receivers—is tailor-made for him.

Undaunted Daunte

Green will be no more hesitant to insert Bennett into his lineup than he was relying on quarterback **Daunte Culpepper** as an untested second-year starter. Culpepper disappointed no one, especially receivers Moss and **Cris**

Carter, as he became the most dangerous passer/runner the Vikings have played at quarterback since Fran Tarkenton.

With Culpepper in only his second season as a starter, the Vikings expect significant improvement in an offense that finished fifth overall, sixth in running and seventh in passing among all NFL teams.

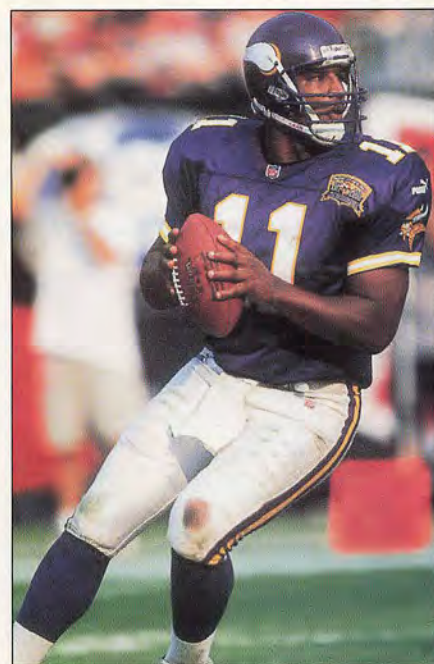
Green was going to insert backups **Doug Chapman** and **Moe Williams** into Smith's tailback slot before getting Bennett. Now, he believes he has quality depth plus bruising fullback **Jim Kleinsasser**. At quarterback, he lost veteran Bubby Brister, but has confidence in young **Todd Bouman** as a backup.

Receiver reunion

Moss and Carter welcome the return of **Jake Reed** as the third receiver. Reed spent last season in New Orleans and the Vikings weren't able to play their usual three-receiver offense as effectively. The addition of tight end **Byron Chamberlain** from Denver also gives Culpepper a big target in the middle of the field. **Andrew Jordan** backs him up.

The rapid development of center **Matt Birk** vindicated the Vikings in their loss of former Pro Bowl blockers Jeff Christy and Randall McDaniel to Tampa Bay. Birk now anchors the line and is one of the league's best centers, getting to the Pro Bowl in his first season as a starter.

Chris Liwinski could replace **Corbin Lacina** at left guard and **Brad Badger** will replace Steussie at left tackle. **David Dixon** and **Korey Stringer** continue to give the Vikings one of the biggest right sides—over 700 pounds—of any offensive line, but depth

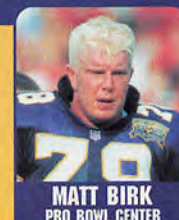


The Vikings and quarterback Daunte Culpepper (top) will welcome back Jake Reed for his second stint in Minnesota.

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	372.6 5
RUSHING	133.1 6
PASSING	239.5 7
SCORING	397 5
PUNT RETURNS	10.0 14
KICK RETURNS	21.7 16T
RED ZONE TD %	54.3 8T

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	356.3 28
AGAINST RUSH	111.8 15
AGAINST PASS	244.6 28
PTS. ALLOWED	371 24
INTERCEPTIONS	8 31
SACKS	31 22T
TURNOVER DIFF.	-10 26T



MATT BIRK
PRO BOWL CENTER

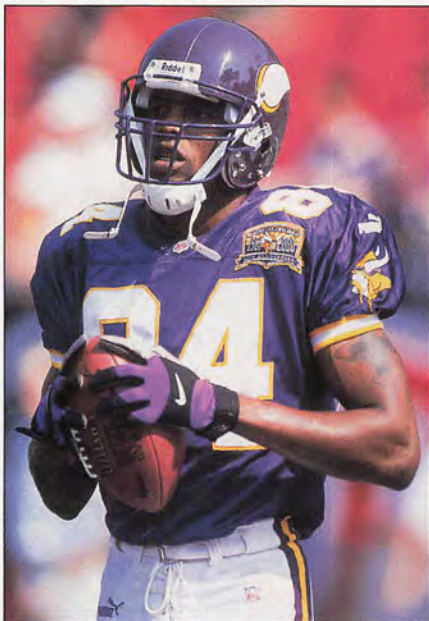
is a potential problem, with **Cory Withrow** and **Lewis Kelly** being untested backups.

Defense to miss R&R

The defense needs fixing and lost one of the league's best players of the '90s in Randle, who signed with Seattle. He had lost his effectiveness in recent years because the Vikings had him playing out of position at end. The addition of pass rusher **Lance Johnstone** from Oakland could give the Vikings their best edge rusher since Chris Doleman if Johnstone can

shake the injuries that slowed him in Oakland. **Talance Sawyer** will try left end to make room for Johnstone, with **Fernando Smith** starting at tackle and able to swing inside and outside. The addition of Stanford's **Willie Howard** also provides some versatility. Howard, a second-rounder, will get a chance to start. Second-year prospect **Michael Boireau** also will get a look. Inside, second-year tackle **Chris Hovan** is solid. Draft choice **Shawn Worthen** and second-year man **Fred Robbins** need to help in a hurry.

Minnesota's dangerous receiver tandem of Randy Moss (left) and Cris Carter combined for 24 touchdown catches last season.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 30-27	Chicago
09/10	W 13-7	Miami
09/17	W 21-13	at New England
10/01	W 31-24	at Detroit
10/09	W 30-23	Tampa Bay
10/15	W 28-16	at Chicago
10/22	W 31-27	Buffalo
10/29	L 13-41	at Tampa Bay
11/06	L 20-26 OT	at Green Bay
11/12	W 31-14	Arizona
11/19	W 31-17	Carolina
11/23	W 27-15	at Dallas
11/30	W 24-17	Detroit
12/10	L 29-40	at St. Louis
12/17	L 28-33	Green Bay
12/24	L 10-31	at Indianapolis

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	295	1521	5.2	72t	7
Culpepper	89	470	5.3	27t	7
Williams	23	67	2.9	10	0
Kleinsasser	12	43	3.6	7	0
Brister	5	20	4.0	12	0
Moss	3	5	1.7	9	0
Walters	1	3	3.0	3	0
Team	428	2129	5.0	72t	14
Opponents	396	1788	4.5	52	17

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Carter	96	1274	13.3	53	9
Moss	77	1437	18.7	78t	15
Smith	36	348	9.7	53t	3
McWilliams	22	180	8.2	26	3
Walsh	18	191	10.6	21	0
Davis	17	202	11.9	37	1
Hatchette	16	190	11.9	39t	2
Kleinsasser	10	98	9.8	21	0
Jordan	8	63	7.9	12	0
Williams	4	31	7.8	12	0
Walters	1	5	5.0	5	0
Morrow	1	2	2.0	2	0
Team	307	4019	13.1	78t	33
Opponents	369	4127	11.2	52t	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Culpepper	474	297	3937	33	16
Brister	20	10	82	0	1
Berger	1	0	0	0	0
Team	495	307	4019	33	18
Opponents	584	369	4127	23	8

SACKS

Randle 8.0, Sawyer 6.0, T. Williams 4.0, Burrough 2.0, Hovan 2.0, McDaniel 2.0, Paup 2.0, Wong 2.0, Griffith 1.0, Robbins 1.0, Thomas 1.0

Team 31.0, Opponents 35.0

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Dennis Green, head coach

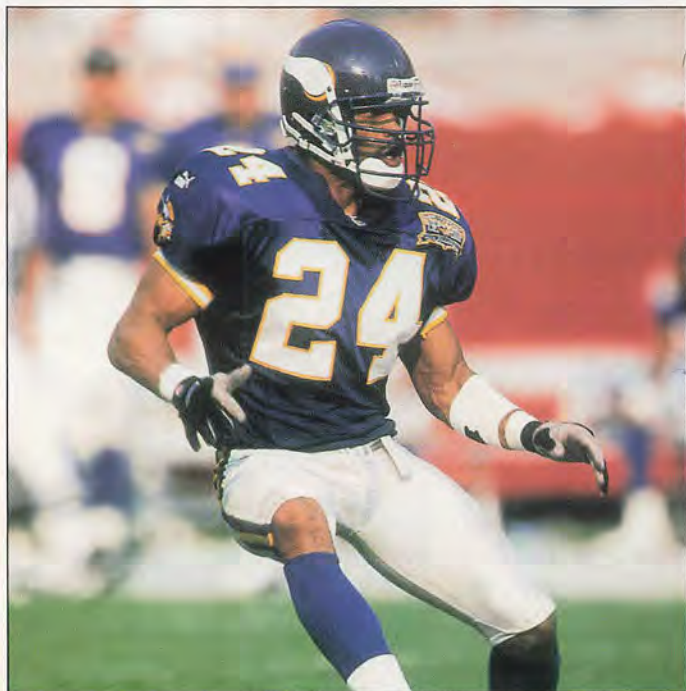
Dean Dalton, assistant offensive line; Carl Hargrave, running backs; Daryl Lawrence, assistant strength and conditioning; Sherman Lewis, offensive coordinator; Richard Solomon, inside linebackers/director of pro personnel; Emmitt Thomas, defensive coordinator; Mike Tice, assistant head coach/offensive line; Trent Walters, defensive assistant; Steve Wetzel, strength and conditioning; Alex Wood, quarterbacks; Gary Zauner, special teams; John Tice, tight ends; Brian Baker, defensive line; Charlie Baggett, wide receivers

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Bouman, Todd	QB 6-2	231	08/01/72	0	St. Cloud State
11	Culpepper, Daunte	QB 6-4	266	01/28/77	2	Central Florida
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Dixon, David	G 6-5	358	01/05/69	7	Arizona State
77	Stringer, Corey	T 6-4	346	05/08/74	6	Ohio State
74	Badger, Brad	G 6-4	312	01/11/75	4	Stanford
78	Birk, Matt	C 6-4	316	07/23/76	3	Harvard
76	Liwinski, Chris	G 6-5	332	08/02/75	2	Indiana
67	Humphrey, Jay	T 6-6	313	06/20/76	0	Texas
60	Withrow, Cory	C 6-2	288	04/05/76	1	Washington State
69	Malano, Mike	C 6-2	307	10/16/76	0	San Diego State
61	Kelly, Lewis	T 6-4	272	04/12/77	0	South Carolina State
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Williams, Moe	RB 6-1	203	07/26/74	5	Kentucky
33	Morrow, Harold	RB 5-11	229	02/24/73	5	Auburn
40	Kleinsasser, Jim	RB 6-3	279	01/31/77	2	North Dakota
34	Chapman, Doug	RB 5-10	211	08/22/77	0	Marshall
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Carter, Kris	WR 6-3	208	11/25/65	14	Ohio State
86	Reed, Jake	WR 6-3	216	09/28/67	10	Grambling
85	Jordan, Andrew	TE 6-6	263	06/21/72	7	Western Carolina
	Chamberlain, Byron	TE 6-1	242	10/17/71	6	Wayne State (NE)
83	Kent, Joey	WR 6-1	191	04/23/74	3	Tennessee
84	Moss, Randy	WR 6-4	198	02/13/77	3	Marshall
82	Walters, Troy	WR 5-7	174	12/15/76	1	Stanford
48	Cercone, Matt	TE 6-5	261	11/30/75	1	Arizona State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Smith, Fernando	DE 6-6	286	08/02/71	7	Jackson State
90	Northern, Gabe	DE 6-3	246	06/08/74	5	LSU
51	Johnstone, Lance	DE 6-4	250	06/11/73	5	Temple
96	Council, Keith	DE 6-6	285	12/03/74	0	Hampton
97	Sawyer, Talance	DE 6-2	268	06/14/76	2	UNLV
99	Hovan, Chris	DT 6-2	305	05/12/78	1	Boston College
98	Robbins, Fred	DT 6-4	310	03/25/77	1	Wake Forest
92	Boireau, Michael	DE 6-4	265	07/24/78	0	Miami (FL)
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
24	Griffith, Robert	S 5-11	199	11/30/70	7	San Diego State
46	Kidd, Carl	CB 6-1	205	06/14/73	2	Arkansas State
42	Thomas, Orlando	S 6-1	222	10/21/72	6	Southwestern Louisiana
28	Tate, Robert	CB 5-10	192	10/19/73	4	Cincinnati
20	Wright, Kenny	CB 6-1	205	09/14/77	2	Northwestern State
29	Servanga, Wasswa	CB 5-11	190	07/23/76	2	UCLA
31	Morgan, Don	S 5-11	200	09/18/75	2	Nevada
37	Carter, Tyrone	S 6-8	186	03/31/76	1	Minnesota
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
58	McDaniel, Ed	LB 5-11	230	02/23/69	8	Clemson
55	Hall, Lemanski	LB 6-0	241	11/24/70	6	Alabama
59	Sauer, Craig	LB 6-1	241	12/13/72	5	Minnesota
52	Wong, Kailee	LB 6-2	247	05/23/76	3	Stanford
51	Palmer, Mitch	LB 6-4	259	09/02/73	3	Colorado State
56	Nelson, Jim	LB 6-1	236	04/16/75	2	Penn State
54	Wilson, Antonio	LB 6-2	247	12/29/77	1	Texas A&M-Commerce
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Anderson, Gary	K 5-11	184	07/16/59	19	Syracuse
17	Berger, Mitch	P 6-4	228	06/24/72	6	Colorado

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	27	Bennett, Michael	RB	5-9	207	08/13/78	Wisconsin
2	26	Howard, Willie	DT	6-3	290	12/26/77	Stanford
3	7	Kelly, Eric	CB	5-10	198	01/15/77	Kentucky
4	35	Worthen, Shawn	DT	6-1	310	09/12/78	Texas Christian
4	36	James, Cedric	WR	6-2	207	03/19/79	Texas Christian
5	26	Chukwurah, Patrick	LB	6-1	240	03/01/79	Wyoming
6	26	Scott, Carey	CB	5-11	205	—	Kentucky State
7	25	Crawford, Brian	T	6-6	301	09/27/77	Western Oregon



Safety Robert Griffith made his first trip to the Pro Bowl last season, his seventh, and registered his fifth consecutive 100-tackle season.

Replacing Rudd won't be easy. The Vikings hope veteran **Gabe Northern** is up to the task. **Craig Sauer** is iffy after missing most of last season with a foot injury. **Lemanski Hall** is back. **Kailee Wong** emerged strong at middle linebacker and **Ed McDaniel** holds down the weak side.

Cornerback is still a question mark for a secondary that got torched by the Giants in the NFC title game. Third-rounder **Eric Kelly** will immediately be thrust into a mix that includes **Robert Tate**, **Kenny Wright** and **Wasswa Servanga**. Help from a veteran such as **Dale Carter** is a priority before training camp. Safeties **Orlando Thomas** and **Robert Griffith** give coordinator Emmitt Thomas few worries inside, with promising young **Tyrone Carter** in reserve.

Punter **Mitch Berger** and ancient placekicker **Gary Anderson** give the Vikings reliable kicking. Anderson rebounded from an off-year in 2000 and missed only one field goal last year, although his range is a concern at age 42. **Troy Walters** and backup running back **Williams** return kicks.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	CAROLINA	1:00
2	9/17	at Baltimore	9:00
3	9/23	at Chicago	1:00
4	9/30	TAMPA BAY	1:00
5	10/7	at New Orleans	1:00
6	10/14	DETROIT	1:00
7	10/21	GREEN BAY	4:15
8	10/28	at Tampa Bay	1:00
9	11/4	OPEN DATE	
10	11/11	at Philadelphia	4:15
11	11/19	N.Y. GIANTS	9:00
12	11/25	CHICAGO	8:30
13	12/2	at Pittsburgh	1:00
14	12/9	TENNESSEE	1:00
15	12/16	at Detroit	1:00
16	12/23	JACKSONVILLE	4:15
17	12/30	at Green Bay	1:00

*All times Eastern

It's quickly becoming Brian Urlacher against the world in Chicago, where Dick Jauron sits atop the hot seat.

The Bears led the league in only one category last season: injured reserve. They finished the year with 15 players, including eight starters, on the list. But they have a bigger problem than injury. Even when healthy, the Bears have not convinced themselves they can compete.

In coach Dick Jauron's third season, the Bears are searching for a quarterback, wishing for a pass rusher and hoping two rookies can help them score points. They have one great player, second-year middle linebacker **Brian Urlacher**, who already is drawing comparisons to Hall-of-Famer Dick Butkus. Unfortunately, one of the most haunting parallels is that Butkus toiled for years on a losing team.

Since their glory days in the 1980s, the Bears have spent top draft picks on Rashaan Salaam and Curtis Enis to try to replace Walter Payton and Neal Anderson. They have searched for a quarterback to replace Jim McMahon. They have yet to get lucky with an eighth-round pass rusher like Richard Dent.

Cade's fade

Cade McNown, No. 1 pick in 1999, was their choice over Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper at quarterback. Now McNown finds himself in a three-way battle to start with journeymen **Jim Miller** and **Shane Matthews**. When he was drafted among the elite class of quarterbacks, McNown was widely heralded as the prospect most ready to step in and run a pro offense. He failed in the demanding system of former offensive coordinator Gary Crowton, who went back to college as head coach at BYU. Under new coordinator John Shoop, the Bears promise to rely more on a running game and less on route adjustments read on the fly by receivers and quarterbacks.

Jauron admitted he pushed McNown into a starting role too quickly last season. It backfired on the field and in the locker room, where teammates believed Miller gave them a better chance to win. **Billy Joe Tolliver** will vie for a roster spot.

Receiving corps shows promise

The Bears scored a woeful 216 points and finished last in production inside the 20-yard line. Top draft choice **David Terrell** from Michigan is supposed to provide a big target in

Cade McNown continued to struggle with inconsistency in his second pro season.

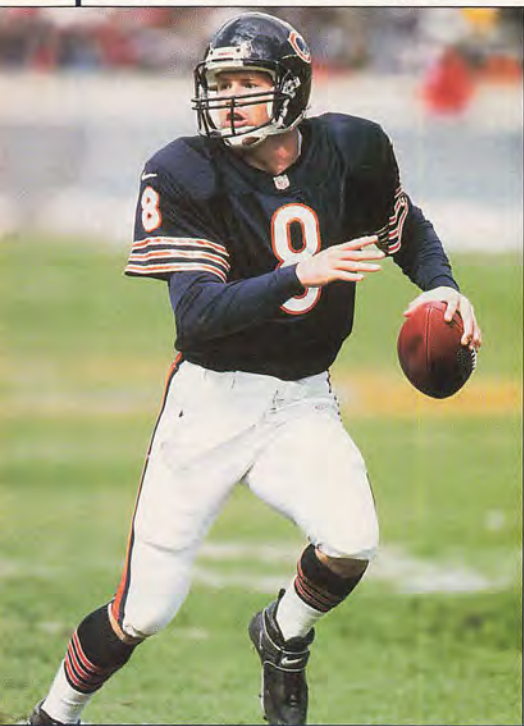


Brian Urlacher exceeded everyone's expectations for his debut season, being named NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year.

the red zone. He will need help. **Marcus Robinson**, a similar big target and deep threat, is coming off a back injury and is vital to Terrell's development. Likewise, **Bobby Engram** missed most of last season with a knee injury that leaves him questionable. **Eddie Kennison** signed in Denver and **Marty Booker**, **Macey Brooks**, **D'Wayne Bates** and **Dez White** have yet to reveal their potential. At tight end, the Bears have hopes for former Eagle and Packer **Kaseem Sinceno** and ex-Jet **Fred Baxter**. Former linebacker **Dustin Lyman** also is trying to help at tight end.

James Allen rushed for 1,120 yards but scored only two touchdowns and doesn't scare defenses. Second-round pick **Anthony Thomas** is a power back who scored 55 touchdowns at Michigan. The Bears will give second-year man **Marlon Barnes** a chance to play and hope to line up in more two-back sets with fullback **Scott Dragos**.

The Bears are set at tackles with **Blake Brockmeyer** and **James "Big Cat" Williams** and at right guard with **Chris Villarrial**. Center **Olin Kreutz** is coming off injury. Left guard **Todd Perry** signed in Miami and will be replaced either by young



TEAM STATS			NFL RANK	TEAM STATS			NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	283.8	23		TOTAL DEFENSE	327.1	16	
RUSHING	108.5	21		AGAINST RUSH	114.2	19	
PASSING	175.3	23		AGAINST PASS	212.9	17	
SCORING	216	28		PTS. ALLOWED	355	20	
PUNT RETURNS	8.7	19		INTERCEPTIONS	11	26	
KICK RETURNS	22.2	13T		SACKS	36	19	
RED ZONE TD %	42.3	25		TURNOVER DIFF.	-9	23T	



BLAKE BROCKMEYER
84 CAREER STARTS

Rex Tucker or rookie Mike Gandy. Jerry Wisne and Jimmy Herndon provide depth.

To protect Urlacher and allow him freedom to race to the football the way Ray Lewis does in Baltimore, the Bears signed two big tackles in Ted Washington of Buffalo and Keith Traylor of Denver. With them playing inside ends Phillip Daniels and Bryan Robinson, the Bears believe they are solid against the run, but they want a pass

rusher to emerge so they can move Robinson inside on passing downs. Fourth-round draft pick Karon Riley of Minnesota will get a shot along with holdover Roosevelt Colvin.

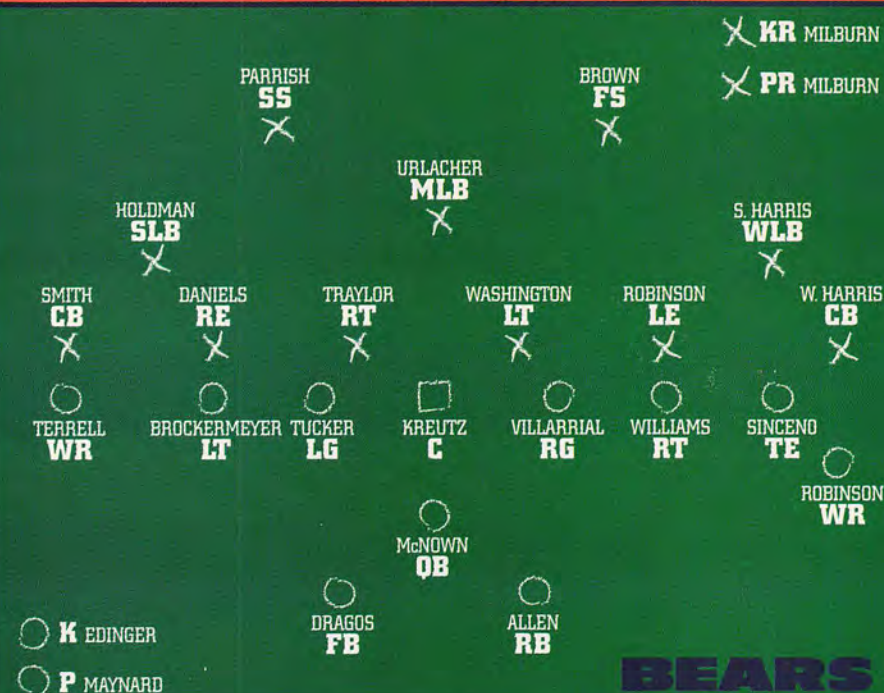
Urlacher's early returns

Urlacher proved a natural at middle linebacker after making the switch from college safety to strongside linebacker at first. He plays between Sean Harris and Warrick Holdman.

The Bears must improve on a passing offense that finished 23rd in the NFL. Below, wide receivers Bobby Engram (left) and Marcus Robinson.



PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 27-30	at Minnesota
09/10	L 0-41	at Tampa Bay
09/17	L 14-21	New York Giants
09/24	L 14-21	Detroit
10/01	W 27-24	at Green Bay
10/08	L 10-31	New Orleans
10/15	L 16-28	Minnesota
10/22	L 9-13	at Philadelphia
11/05	W 27-24	Indianapolis
11/12	L 3-20	at Buffalo
11/19	W 13-10	Tampa bay
11/26	L 10-17	at New York Giants
12/03	L 6-28	Green Bay
12/10	W 24-17	New England
12/17	L 0-17	at San Francisco
12/24	W 23-20	at Detroit

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Allen	290	1120	3.9	29	2
McNown	50	326	6.5	30	3
Enis	36	84	2.3	11t	1
Barnes	15	81	5.4	20	0
Kennison	3	72	24.0	52	0
Matthews	10	35	3.5	14	0
Robinson	1	9	9.0	9	0
Milburn	1	6	6.0	6	0
Miller	7	5	0.7	3	0
Engram	1	1	1.0	1	0
Team	417	1736	4.2	52	6
Opponents	469	1827	3.9	72t	15

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Robinson	55	738	13.4	68t	5
Kennison	55	549	10.0	26	2
Booker	47	490	10.4	41	2
Allen	39	291	7.5	26	1
Brooks	26	216	8.3	27	0
Sinceno	23	206	9.0	28	0
Engram	16	109	6.8	25	0
White	10	87	8.7	25t	1
Allred	9	109	12.1	25	1
Enis	8	68	8.5	18	0
Bates	4	42	10.5	18	0
Mayes	4	40	10.0	19	0
Dragos	4	28	7.0	10	0
Wells	1	13	13.0	13	0
Milburn	1	8	8.0	8	0
Barnes	1	7	7.0	7	0
Lyman	1	4	4.0	4	0
Team	304	3005	9.9	68t	12
Opponents	332	3637	11.0	66	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
McNown	280	154	1646	8	9
Matthews	178	102	964	3	6
Miller	82	47	382	1	1
Aguiar	1	1	13	0	0
Hartsell	1	0	0	0	0
Team	542	304	3005	12	16
Opponents	530	332	3637	25	11

SACKS

Urlacher 8.0, Daniels 6.0, Robinson 4.5, Flanigan 4.0, Colvin 3.0, Parrish 2.0, F. Smith 2.0, Culpepper 1.0, Harris 1.0, T. Smith 1.0, Tuinei 1.0, Wells 1.0, Wilson 1.0

Team 36.0, Opponent 34.0



James Allen came out of nowhere in his third year to lead the Bears in rushing with 1,120 yards.

with Khari Samuel and Colvin backing up. Few linebackers this side of Baltimore's Lewis cover from sideline to sideline as well as Urlacher, who not only led the team in tackles but also found time to record a team-leading eight sacks. He tossed in two interceptions for good measure—all this while starting only the last 14 games without any experience of a training camp at middle linebacker.

In the secondary, the Bears solidified a shaky situation at cornerback by re-signing Walt Harris. Thomas Smith holds down the other spot and Jaaron expects converted running back Jerry Azumah to continue his development. Ex-49er top draft pick R.W. McQuarters played well late in the season when Reggie Austin was hurt as a rookie. At safety, second-year man Mike Brown was only a shade behind Urlacher in terms of rookie impact. Tony Parrish is a hard-hitting strong safety. Shawn Wooden and special-teams ace Frankie Smith back up.

The Bears' first free-agent signing was Giants punter Brad Maynard. The hope is he can boot the offense out of trouble and negotiate the tricky winds in Soldier Field. Placekicker Paul Edinger was very good as a rookie. Glyn Milburn is a dangerous punt and kickoff return man.

CHICAGO BEARS

Dick Jaaron, head coach

Vance Bedford, defensive backs; Greg Blache, defensive coordinator; Chuck Bullough, defensive quality control; John Shoop, offensive coordinator; Dale Lindsey, linebackers; Earle Mosley, running backs; Rex Norris, defensive line; Bob Wylie, offensive line; Russ Riederer, physical development coordinator; Steve Little, assistant physical development

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Matthews, Shane	QB 6-3	196	06/01/70	3	Florida
15	Miller, Jim	QB 6-2	215	02/09/71	4	Michigan State
8	McNown, Cade	QB 6-1	208	01/12/77	2	UCLA
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Williams, James	T 6-7	331	03/29/68	10	Cheyney
78	Brockermeyer, Blake	T 6-4	300	04/11/73	6	Texas
74	Herndon, Jimmy	T 6-8	318	08/30/73	3	Houston
58	Villarrial, Chris	G 6-4	308	06/09/73	5	Indiana (PA)
68	Sheldon, Mike	T 6-4	305	06/08/73	3	Grand Valley State
65	Mannelly, Patrick	T 6-5	270	04/18/75	3	Duke
57	Kreutz, Olin	C 6-2	285	06/09/77	3	Washington
64	Tucker, Rex	G 6-5	315	12/20/76	2	Texas A&M
79	Wisne, Jerry	T 6-6	315	07/28/76	1	Notre Dame
68	Wise, Ty	C 6-2	291	03/09/77	0	Miami (FL)
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
24	Milburn, Glyn	RB 6-8	176	02/19/71	8	Stanford
20	Allen, James	RB 5-10	215	03/28/75	3	Oklahoma
38	Edwards, Brian	RB 6-1	230	06/06/76	0	East Tennessee State
32	Barnes, Marlon	RB 5-9	215	03/13/76	1	Colorado
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Baxter, Fred	TE 6-3	265	06/14/71	8	Auburn
81	Engram, Bobby	WR 5-10	185	01/07/73	5	Penn State
84	Alfred, John	TE 6-4	249	09/09/74	4	Southern California
88	Robinson, Marcus	WR 6-3	215	02/27/75	3	South Carolina
81	Coleman, Fred	WR 6-1	190	01/31/75	0	Washington
85	Sinceno, Kaseem	TE 6-4	255	03/26/76	2	Syracuse
87	Bates, D'Wayne	WR 6-2	215	12/04/75	2	Northwestern
86	Booker, Marty	WR 5-11	215	07/31/76	2	Northeast Louisiana
80	Sanford, Sulecio	WR 5-10	190	03/23/76	0	Middle Tennessee State
82	Bell, Shonn	TE 6-5	257	10/25/74	1	Clinch Valley
80	White, Dez	WR 6-0	219	08/23/76	1	Georgia Tech
89	Lyman, Dustin	TE 6-4	250	08/05/76	1	Wake Forest
45	Dragos, Scott	TE 6-2	245	10/28/75	1	Boston College
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Traylor, Keith	DT 6-2	304	09/03/69	9	Central Oklahoma
96	Williams, Gerald	DE 6-3	293	09/08/63	12	Auburn
92	Washington, Ted	NT 6-5	330	04/13/68	10	Louisville
97	Wells, Mike	DT 6-3	315	01/06/71	7	Iowa
93	Daniels, Phillip	DE 6-5	290	03/04/73	5	Georgia
98	Robinson, Bryan	DE 6-4	300	06/22/74	2	Fresno State
76	Powell, Carl	DE 6-3	265	01/04/74	2	Louisville
90	Tuinei, Van	DE 6-4	290	02/16/71	4	Arizona
94	Wallace, Al	DE 6-5	258	03/25/74	2	Maryland
62	Newkirk, Robert	DT 6-3	290	03/06/77	2	Michigan State
70	Boone, Alfonso	DT 6-3	305	01/11/76	0	Mount San Antonio JC
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
25	Smith, Thomas	CB 5-11	190	12/05/70	8	North Carolina
25	Whigham, Larry	S 6-2	210	06/23/72	7	Northeast Louisiana
47	McElroy, Ray	S 5-11	196	07/31/72	5	Eastern Illinois
24	Brady, Donny	CB 6-2	195	11/24/73	4	Wisconsin
27	Harris, Walt	CB 5-11	195	08/10/74	5	Mississippi State
43	Bolden, Juran	CB 6-2	201	06/27/74	4	Mississippi Delta
22	Wooden, Shawn	S 5-11	205	10/23/73	5	Notre Dame
21	McQuarters, R.W.	CB 5-9	198	12/21/76	3	Oklahoma State
37	Parrish, Tony	S 5-10	211	11/23/75	3	Washington
23	Azumah, Jerry	CB 5-10	195	09/01/77	2	New Hampshire
30	Brown, Mike	S 5-10	202	02/13/78	1	Nebraska
39	Austin, Reggie	CB 5-9	175	01/21/77	0	Wake Forest
43	Green, Michael	S 6-0	176	12/06/76	1	Northwestern State
26	McMillon, Todd	CB 5-10	183	09/09/73	1	Northern Arizona
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Minter, Barry	LB 6-2	250	01/28/70	8	Tulsa
55	Harris, Sean	LB 6-3	252	02/25/72	6	Arizona
53	Holdman, Warrick	LB 6-1	246	11/22/75	2	Texas A&M
59	Colvin, Roosevelt	LB 6-3	254	09/05/77	2	Purdue
91	Samuel, Khari	LB 6-3	240	10/14/76	2	Massachusetts
54	Urlacher, Brian	LB 6-3	244	05/25/78	1	New Mexico
52	Howard, Bobbie	LB 5-10	226	06/14/77	0	Notre Dame
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Maynard, Brad	P 6-1	190	02/09/74	4	Ball State
12	Bartholomew, Brent	P 6-2	220	10/22/76	2	Ohio State
2	Edinger, Paul	K 5-10	162	01/17/78	1	Michigan State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	8	Terrell, David	WR	6-3	213	03/13/79	Michigan
2	7	Thomas, Anthony	RB	6-1	225	11/11/77	Michigan
3	6	Gandy, Mike	G	6-4	315	01/03/79	Notre Dame
4	8	Riley, Karon	DE	6-2	266	06/18/80	Minnesota
5	7	Robertson, Bernard	T	6-3	295	06/09/79	Tulane
7	8	Capel, John	WR	5-10	177		Florida



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at Baltimore	1:00
2	9/16	JACKSONVILLE	4:15
3	9/23	MINNESOTA	1:00
4	9/30	OPEN DATE	
5	10/7	at Atlanta	1:00
6	10/14	ARIZONA	1:00
7	10/21	at Cincinnati	1:00
8	10/28	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00
9	11/4	CLEVELAND	1:00
10	11/11	GREEN BAY	1:00
11	11/18	at Tampa Bay	1:00
12	11/25	at Minnesota	8:30
13	12/2	DETROIT	1:00
14	12/9	at Green Bay	1:00
15	12/16	TAMPA BAY	1:00
16	12/23	at Washington	1:00
17	12/30	at Detroit	1:00

*All times Eastern

Division of very little defense looks for another worst-to-first scenario.

By Don Pierson, *Chicago Tribune*

This is the "Worst-to-First" division. New Orleans made the jump last year, St. Louis the year before. Atlanta was fifth last year and isn't too far removed from its 14-2 title following a 7-9 season.

The bad news for the rest of the division is the San Francisco 49ers have been down two years in a row and haven't won the division title since 1995. Amazingly, the Saints, Rams, Falcons and Panthers all have won it since the 49ers last dominated. In San Francisco, they think it's their turn again.

St. Louis Rams

Coach Mike Martz, who thinks defense is something to toy with on a blackboard, nevertheless acknowledged that the other half of his team needed restructure. So hiring Tampa Bay linebackers coach Lovie Smith was the most important move in the Rams' quest to return to a Super Bowl.

Martz doesn't want his fancy passing to appear like a passing fancy, but defense is his best hope to give Kurt Warner and Marshall Faulk a chance. It's a gamble, but Martz figures no defense could be much worse than the one that gave up 29 points a game last season. He got rid of unhappy defensive end Kevin Carter and added a whole new cast of characters with the salary-cap space that created.

New Orleans Saints

With the eighth-ranked defense, the Saints were the only team in the division with a defense worth noting. The other four were all floundering among the bottom nine. If defense still means anything in 2001, the chasers have considerable ground to make up on the surprising Saints.

Coach Jim Haslett's problem is not defense, but whether to play Jeff Blake or Aaron Brooks at quarterback. Either one would like to hand off to Ricky Williams if Williams is willing. If not, Haslett may have come up with the steal of the draft in versatile Deuce McAllister.

San Francisco 49ers

You can't keep a good organization down for long, and with Bill Walsh completing his final offseason and draft and coach Steve Mariucci still around to coach, the 49ers still resemble a pretty good organization. They surprised everybody but themselves with the emergence of quarterback Jeff Garcia.

If their rebuilding defense is anywhere near ready to compete, watch out above. The 49ers will be back before their rivals know it. Walsh is on his way out, but he has not left this team in shambles.

Carolina Panthers

George Seifert was once the coach with the best winning percentage in history. That was before his sojourn east from San Francisco. He tried to assemble a cast of older veterans last year to make a run. This year, he's headed in another direction, although cutting quarterback Steve Beuerlein was one of the most puzzling moves of the offseason. Seifert once got rid of Joe Montana, but that was to make room for Steve Young. There is no Young in sight here. Instead, there is Heisman Trophy winner Chris Weinke, oldest quarterback on the roster. If he's also the best, he will start, which means it's a rebuilding year.

Atlanta Falcons

Dan Reeves has seen better days, like the time he traded for rookie quarterback John Elway long ago. Trading for exciting Michael Vick was the perfect tonic for Falcon fans, who were beginning to think the 1998 Super Bowl season was a mirage.

Reeves is still relying on quarterback Chris Chandler and running back Jamal Anderson. The question is whether either will ever be the same. A more pressing problem, however, is on defense, where the Falcons ranked 25th and showed very little interest in stopping the run. Maybe Mr. Vick can play safety while awaiting his shot at quarterback.



TOP PLAYERS

OFFENSE:
Marshall Faulk, RB
St. Louis Rams

DEFENSE:
La'Roi Glover, DT
New Orleans Saints

NEWCOMER:
Aeneas Williams, CB
St. Louis Rams





Offense is still primo, but Martz never met a defense he couldn't try to overhaul—so hang on.

Mike Martz likes to strike quickly. On offense, he loves big plays. On defense, he saw too many big plays against his Rams last season, so he wasted no time this offseason trying to fix it. Some coaches think rebuilding is a process; Martz treats it like an event. He fired three defensive assistants and most of his defensive starters.



"We were very complicated on defense last season," Martz says. "The players lost confidence in what we were doing. I also think there was a core of players defensively that were starters, about four or five guys, that did not prepare to play that season like they had done in past years."

If Martz weren't a coach, he'd make a good demolition engineer. He sent six defensive starters packing and targeted more after hiring Lovie Smith from Tampa Bay to replace Peter Giunta as coordinator. Smith will install the same "Cover 2" zone defense that held the Rams to 11 points in the 1999 NFC title game win over the Bucs.

When skeptics question Martz's madness, he refers them to the 1999 offseason when he was brought in from Washington and revamped the entire offense before their Super Bowl.

"We went from 27th to first (in total offense)," Martz recalls. "We changed eight starters, and we changed the offensive staff."

On offense, they nearly matched their 1999 season despite injuries to **Kurt Warner** and **Marshall Faulk**. Had the defense not yielded 29.4 points a game, the Rams believe they would have repeated.

Warner suffered a broken pinky finger on his right hand and concussions that lingered into the offseason, so Martz was reluctant to part with backup quarterback **Trent Green**, finally sending him to Kansas City for one of three No. 1 draft choices. **Joe Germaine** shows promise as a backup, but remains inexperienced.

A broken finger and concussions contributed to Kurt Warner's interception rate doubling to 5.2 percent last year.



With 2,189 total yards last season, Marshall Faulk joined Jim Brown to become the second player in NFL history to record three consecutive seasons of at least 2,000 total yards.

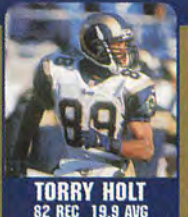
Offense = Marshall Plan

Faulk is the focal point of the offense. The past two years, he has been nothing short of the best player in football. Only 28, Faulk is in his prime, performing in the perfect system to exploit his nonpareil running/receiving skill. Martz hopes last year's injured rookie, **Trung Canidate**, can spell Faulk more this season, but the Rams will not advance further than Faulk can take them. Fullback **Robert Holcombe** is excellent and underused.

Nobody has a better group of receivers and nobody uses them to greater advantage. Starters **Isaac Bruce** and **Torry Holt** complement each other on long and intermediate routes and both excel in the crossing routes that are a staple of Martz's schemes. **Az-Zahir Hakim** is also dangerous, but too often his fumbles prove dangerous to his own team. **Ricky Proehl** and tight end **Ernie Conwell** also can be threats.

The offensive line is solid but thin. Tackles **Orlando Pace** and **Ryan Tucker** were 16-game starters, while guards **Tom Nuten** and **Adam Timmerman** and center **Andy McCollum** missed only one start

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK	TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	442.2	1	TOTAL DEFENSE	343.4	23
RUSHING	115.2	17	AGAINST RUSH	106.1	13
PASSING	264.9	1	AGAINST PASS	237.3	27
SCORING	540	1	PTS. ALLOWED	246	31
PUNT RETURNS	15.3	2	INTERCEPTIONS	19	11T
KICK RETURNS	22.1	15	SACKS	51	4T
RED ZONE TD %	62.8	1	TURNOVER DIFF.	-10	26T



TORREY HOLT
82 REC 19.9 AVG



Wide receiver Isaac Bruce (left) posted his second straight 1,000-yard receiving season in 2000, while defensive end Grant Wistrom (center) and cornerback Dre Bly had a career highs in tackles with 71 and 51, respectively.

among them. Martz moved backup guard **Cameron Spikes** to defense, so he isn't too worried about offensive line depth, where **Pete Swanson**, **Mike Newell**, **Kaulana Noa** and **John St. Clair** are without experience.

Offseason specials at K-Martz

Martz traded disgruntled defensive end Kevin Carter, once the best in the league, after a subpar season. Carter and cornerback Todd Lyght didn't feel they had properly cashed in on their Super Bowl success so both will work elsewhere. Also jettisoned

were Super Bowl-tackling hero Mike Jones, tackle D'Marco Farr and safety Keith Lyle. Linebacker **Todd Collins** and safety **Devin Bush** also are vulnerable, leaving end **Grant Wistrom**, middle linebacker **London Fletcher** and cornerback **Dexter McCleon** as the only sure survivors.

The Rams hope ex-Giant **Cedric Jones**, **Sean Moran** and **Leonard Little** can replace Carter. Top draft choice **Damione Lewis** is an instant starter at tackle, and another No. 1 pick, **Ryan Pickett**, will join holdover **Jeff Zgonina** inside.

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE	SCORE	
09/04	W 41-36	Denver
09/10	W 37-34	at Seattle
09/17	W 41-24	San Francisco
09/24	W 41-20	at Atlanta
10/01	W 57-31	San Diego
10/15	W 45-29	Atlanta
10/22	L 34-54	at Kansas City
10/29	W 34-24	at San Francisco
11/05	L 24-27	Carolina
11/12	W 38-24	at New York Giants
11/20	L 20-33	Washington
11/26	L 24-31	New Orleans
12/03	L 3-16	at Carolina
12/10	W 40-29	Minnesota
12/18	L 35-38	at Tampa Bay
12/24	W 26-21	at New Orleans

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Faulk	253	1359	5.4	36	18
Watson	54	249	4.6	49	4
Holcombe	21	70	3.3	11	3
Green	20	69	3.5	18t	1
Conwell	2	23	11.5	17	0
Hakim	5	19	3.8	5	0
Warner	18	17	0.9	11	0
Bruce	1	11	11.0	11	0
Holt	2	7	3.5	7	0
Canidate	3	6	2.0	3	0
Horne	2	6	3.0	9	0
Lyle	1	4	4.0	4	0
Hodgins	1	3	3.0	3	0
Team	363	1843	4.8	49	26
Opponents	383	1697	4.4	69	18

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bruce	87	1471	16.9	78t	9
Holt	82	1635	19.9	85t	6
Faulk	81	830	10.2	72t	8
Hakim	53	734	13.8	80t	4
Proehl	31	441	14.2	29	4
Williams	11	102	9.3	31t	3
Watson	10	56	5.6	15	0
Holcombe	8	90	11.2	19	1
Robinson	5	52	10.4	27	0
Conwell	5	40	8.0	17	0
Horne	4	32	8.0	18t	2
Hodgins	2	5	2.5	3	0
Canidate	1	4	4.0	4	0
Team	380	5492	14.5	85t	37
Opponents	323	4085	12.6	62t	32

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Warner	347	235	3429	21	18
Green	240	145	2063	16	5
Team	587	380	5492	37	23
Opponents	534	323	4085	32	19

SACKS

Wistrom 11.0, Carter 10.5, Little 5.0, Fletcher 5.5, Agnew 4.0, Jones 2.0, McCleon 2.0, Moran 2.0, Zgonina 2.0, Bush 1.0, Bly 1.0, Collins 1.0, Farr 1.0, Hobgood-Chittick 1.0, Lyght 1.0, Styles 1.0

Team 51.0, Opponents 44.0



Besides his career high of 53 in receptions, Az-Zahir Hakim also led the NFC in punt returns with a 15.3-yard average. Perennial Pro Bowl cornerback Aeneas Williams (right) was the Rams' big offseason addition.



Smith brought unknown linebacker **Don Davis** with him from Tampa. **Mark Fields** was signed from New Orleans and Florida State linebackers **Tommy Polley** (second round) and **Brian Allen** (third) were high draft picks. Fletcher is solid in the middle.

A+ on Aeneas acquisition

Martz thinks obtaining Pro Bowl cornerback **Aeneas Williams** from Arizona will provide the same kind of spark for the defense that Faulk provided for the offense two years ago. McCleon, **Dre Bly** and second-year man **Jacoby Shepherd** give the Rams depth at corner. They signed free-agent safety **Kim Herring** from Baltimore to replace Lyle. Herring will be switching from strong safety to free. Arizona State's **Adam Archuleta** is another No. 1 pick who will get a shot at the strong safety job. **Rich Coady** can back up at both inside spots.

Placekicker **Jeff Wilkins** was re-signed after suffering a quadriceps injury. Since nobody scores more than the Rams, nobody kicks off more than Wilkins, so new special teams coach **Bobby April** wants to limit his repetitions in practice. More is expected from second-year punter **John Baker**. Hakim is an explosive punt returner. The Rams must replace kickoff returner **Tony Horne**, who rejoined **Dick Vermeil** in Kansas City in the Green deal. Backup running back **Canidate** is the favorite.

ST. LOUIS RAMS

Mike Martz, head coach

Steve Brown, secondary; **Sam Clark**, defensive assistant; **Lovie Smith**, defensive coordinator; **Bill Kollar**, defensive line; **Mike Haluchak**, linebackers; **Jim Hanifan**, offensive line; **Ron Meeks**, secondary; **Bobby Jackson**, associate head coach/offensive coordinator/running backs; **Chirs Clausen**, strength and conditioning; **Dana DeLuc**, strength and conditioning; **John Matsko**, assistant head coach/offensive line; **Wilbert Montgomery**, tight ends; **Bobby April**, special teams; **John Ramsdell**, quarterbacks; **Ken Zampese**, wide receivers; **Matt Sheldon**, defensive assistant/quality control; **Henry Ellard**, offensive assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
13	Warner, Kurt	QB	6-2	220	06/22/71	3 Northern Iowa
9	Germaine, Joe	QB	6-0	203	08/11/77	1 Ohio State
14	Bulger, Marc	QB	6-3	210	04/05/77	0 West Virginia

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
67	McCollum, Andy	C	6-4	295	06/02/70	6 Toledo
65	Garcia, Frank	C	6-2	302	01/28/72	6 Washington
62	Timmerman, Adam	G	6-4	300	08/14/71	6 South Dakota State
61	Nutten, Tom	G	6-5	300	06/08/71	4 Western Michigan
76	Pace, Orlando	T	6-7	320	11/04/75	4 Ohio State
50	Tucker, Ryan	T	6-5	305	06/12/75	4 Texas Christian
68	Swanson, Pete	G	6-5	307	03/26/74	1 Stanford
73	Spikes, Cameron	G	6-2	310	11/06/76	2 Texas A&M
64	Newell, Mike	C	6-4	300	07/22/76	0 Colorado State
70	St. Clair, John	T	6-5	293	07/15/77	0 Virginia
71	Noa, Kaulana	T	6-4	320	12/29/76	0 Hawaii
72	Kline, Andrew	G	6-2	303	10/05/76	0 San Diego State

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Faulk, Marshall	RB	5-10	211	02/26/73	7 San Diego State
25	Holcombe, Robert	RB	5-11	220	12/11/75	3 Illinois
33	Watson, Justin	RB	6-0	225	01/07/75	2 San Diego State
42	Hodgins, James	RB	5-11	230	04/30/77	2 San Jose State
24	Canidate, Trung	RB	5-11	192	03/03/77	1 Arizona

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
87	Proehl, Ricky	WR	6-0	190	03/07/68	11 Wake Forest
45	Robinson, Jeff	TE	6-4	275	02/20/70	8 Idaho
80	Bruce, Isaac	WR	6-0	188	11/10/72	7 Memphis
84	Conwell, Ernie	TE	6-1	265	08/17/72	5 Washington
81	Hakim, Az-Zahir	WR	5-10	179	06/03/77	3 San Diego State
88	Holt, Torry	WR	6-0	190	06/05/76	2 North Carolina State
15	Gideon, Sherrod	WR	6-0	176	02/21/77	0 Southern Mississippi
83	Blevins, Darrius	WR	6-2	216	04/02/76	1 Memphis

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
90	Zgonina, Jeff	DT	6-2	300	05/24/70	8 Purdue
77	Moran, Sean	DE	6-3	275	06/05/73	5 Colorado State
98	Wistrom, Grant	DE	6-4	267	07/03/76	3 Nebraska
58	Brown, Jonathan	DE	6-4	265	11/28/75	1 Tennessee
96	Word, Mark	DE	6-4	282	11/23/75	1 Jacksonville State
94	Hyder, Gaylon	DT	6-5	290	10/18/74	2 Texas Christian
66	Young, Brian	DE	6-2	278	07/08/77	1 UTEP
93	Marriott, Jeff	DE	6-4	300	03/03/77	0 Missouri

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
35	Williams, Aeneas	CB	5-11	200	01/29/68	10 Southern University
23	Bush, Devin	S	6-0	210	07/03/73	6 Florida State
20	Herring, Kim	S	6-0	200	09/10/75	4 Penn State
21	McCleon, Dexter	CB	5-10	195	10/09/73	4 Clemson
36	Crutchfield, Buddy	CB	6-0	196	03/07/76	2 North Carolina Central
32	Bly, Dre'	CB	5-9	185	05/22/77	2 North Carolina
38	Coady, Rich	S	6-0	203	01/26/76	2 Texas A&M
27	Brown, Darwin	CB	5-10	175	07/06/77	0 Texas Tech
22	Shepherd, Jacoby	CB	6-1	195	08/31/79	1 Oklahoma State
27	Bowen, Matt	S	6-1	202	11/12/76	1 Iowa

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
54	Collins, Todd	LB	6-2	248	05/27/70	8 Carson-Newman
55	Fields, Mark	LB	6-2	244	11/09/72	6 Washington State
58	Davis, Don	LB	6-1	234	12/17/72	5 Kansas
57	Little, Leonard	LB	6-3	237	10/19/74	3 Tennessee
59	Fletcher, London	LB	5-10	241	05/19/75	3 John Carroll
55	Smith, Jamel	LB	6-0	234	07/18/77	0 Virginia Tech
53	Miller, Keith	LB	6-1	238	07/09/76	1 California
58	Cohen, Dustin	LB	6-3	236	12/22/76	0 Miami (OH)

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
14	Wilkins, Jeff	K	6-2	205	04/19/72	7 Youngstown State
4	Baker, John	P	6-3	223	04/22/77	1 North Texas

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	12	Lewis, Damione	DT	6-2	290	03/01/78	Miami (FL)
1	20	Archuleta, Adam	S	5-11	210	—	Arizona State
1	29	Pickett, Ryan	DT	6-2	309	10/08/79	Ohio State
2	11	Polley, Tommy	LB	6-3	235	01/11/78	Florida State
3	21	Allen, Brian	LB	6-0	250	04/01/78	Florida State
4	21	Wynn, Milton	WR	6-2	207	09/21/78	Washington State
4	34	Manumaleuna, B.	TE	6-1	280	01/04/80	Arizona
5	14	Butler, Jerametrius	CB	5-9	173	11/28/78	Kansas State
6	34	St. Paul, Francis	WR	5-9	180	04/25/79	Northern Arizona

*All times Eastern

LEFT: JOE ROBBINS; RIGHT: TOMASSO DEROSA

Substantive Saints have talent, but intangibles are now necessary to be a consistent contender.

It's hard to take the New Orleans Saints seriously. Force of habit tends to discount whatever they happen to accomplish, such as a totally unexpected NFC West title.

A closer glance reveals more substance. Under Coach of the Year Jim Haslett and Executive of the Year Randy Mueller, the Saints are laying a firmer foundation around the one player former coach Mike Ditka



Jeff Blake is expected to bounce back strong this season and try to retake his starting QB job from Aaron Brooks.

thought would get him to a Super Bowl, **Ricky Williams**. In fact, it is becoming so firm that the Saints believe they can get along fine whether or not Williams is along for the ride.

Aiming high

After breaking their unenviable streak of never winning a playoff game, the Saints figure not to wait another 33 years for their second postseason victory. Dethroning the world champion St. Louis Rams for their first-ever playoff

win was a bonus that boosted confidence. Because they finished last season strong despite significant injuries (Williams included), fans are eager to see what a healthy team might do.

"I still think we have a way to go, but we have a good nucleus of players," Haslett says. "We have our whole offensive line intact. We have our whole defensive line intact. We'll have every starter back on offense, and we added (free-agent receiver) **Albert Connell**. With some of the guys coming back, like (tight end) **Cam Cleeland**, we can be better in a lot of areas."

Super Bowl contenders?

"Why not?" Haslett asks. "I don't know if there is an odds-on favorite in the NFC. I think it's open for anybody to win."

Enough good QBs for a controversy

On a team that has struggled for years to find a quarterback, the Saints think they have two in **Jeff Blake** and **Aaron Brooks**. After Blake fractured and dislocated his right foot in October, Brooks played so well that Haslett can't ignore a quarterback challenge entering this season.

While maintaining there will be no quarterback controversy, Haslett knows it is up to him to avoid one by making the quickest, most forceful decision possible. The loser will not be happy because both Blake and Brooks proved they can play at a high level. Haslett also likes third-stringer **Jake Delhomme**.

As for Williams, his goal should be to finish a season healthy, something that has eluded him in his first two tries. Both times, ankle problems kept him from fulfilling the potential Ditka envisioned when he traded his



Ricky Williams had the sixth 1,000-yard season in Saints history last year, but he will be challenged by rookie Deuce McAllister.

1999 draft to land him. A broken left ankle as he reached his 1,000th yard kept Williams from any meaningful playoff role, but not before he established himself as the kind of threat who can carry a team. The Saints were disappointed when Williams did not join early offseason workouts and made the intriguing choice of running back **Deuce McAllister** in the draft's first round.

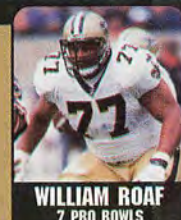
The Saints ousted the Rams from the playoffs without Williams or rookie blocking back **Terrelle Smith**, who was nursing back and shoulder injuries. Smith's health remains a question mark. Little **Chad Morton** also provides a nice change of pace to Williams, but McAllister is so versatile he can line up at receiver.

Also injured against the Rams was leading receiver **Joe Horn**, who wasn't good

NUMBERS

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	337.3 10
RUSHING	129.3 8
PASSING	208.1 14
SCORING	354 10
PUNT RETURNS	8.5 22T
KICK RETURNS	23.8 5
RED ZONE TD %	50.0 13T

TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	296.4 8
AGAINST RUSH	104.5 10
AGAINST PASS	191.9 10
PTS. ALLOWED	305 10
INTERCEPTIONS	20 9T
SACKS	66 1
TURNOVER DIFF.	+9 8



WILLIAM ROAF
7 PRO BOWLS

If Cleeland can recover after being lost for the season with a ruptured Achilles, offensive coordinator Mike McCarthy's West Coast attack will get a boost from the tight end spot, where **Lamont Hall**, **Dave Stachelski** and **Austin Wheatley** remain.

Defensive dynasty in the making?

It is on defense that the Saints have a decided edge on their division rivals, despite the free-agency loss of two former first-round draft choices, cornerback

Won 10. Lost 6

DATE		SCORE	
09/03	L	10-14	Detroit
09/10	W	28-27	at San Diego
09/17	L	10-20	at Seattle
09/24	L	7-21	Philadelphia
10/08	W	31-10	at Chicago
10/15	W	24-6	Carolina
10/22	W	21-19	at Atlanta
10/29	W	21-10	at Arizona
11/05	W	31-15	San Francisco
11/12	W	20-10	at Carolina
11/19	L	22-31	Oakland
11/26	W	31-24	at St. Louis
12/03	L	23-38	Denver
12/10	W	31-27	at San Francisco
12/17	W	23-7	Atlanta
12/24	L	21-26	St. Louis

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Williams	248	1000	4.0	26t	8
Blake	57	243	4.3	20	1
Allen	46	179	3.9	18	2
Brooks	41	170	4.1	29	2
Moore	37	156	4.2	40	1
Morton	36	136	3.8	16	0
Smith	29	131	4.5	16	0
McAfee	2	37	18.5	40	0
Horn	6	10	1.7	16	0
Gowin	1	5	5.0	5	0
Milne	2	1	0.5	1	0
Team	505	2068	4.1	40	14
Opponents	395	1672	4.2	47	14

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Horn	94	1340	14.3	52	8
Williams	44	409	9.3	24	1
Jackson	37	523	14.1	53t	6
Morton	30	213	7.1	35	0
Poole	21	293	14.0	49t	1
Glover	21	281	13.4	39	4
Reed	16	206	12.9	22	0
Smith	12	65	5.4	10	0
Wilson	11	154	14.0	30	0
Hall	5	33	6.6	13	1
Milne	5	33	6.6	15	1
Turley	1	16	16.0	16	0
Allen	1	7	7.0	7	0
Team	298	3573	12.0	53t	22
Opponents	285	3449	12.1	69t	17

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Blake	302	184	2025	13	9
Brooks	194	113	1514	9	6
Williams	1	1	34	0	0
Team	497	298	3573	22	15
Opponents	488	285	3449	17	20

SACKS

Glover 17.0, Johnson 12.0, Howard 11.0, Mitchell 6.5, Whitehead 5.5, Hand 3.0, Fields 2.0, Oldham 2.0, Knight 2.0, Smith 2.0, Weary 2.0, Clarke 1.0

Team 66.0, Opponents 39.0

PROJECTED STARTERS





Fifth-year safety Sammy Knight came of age last season, leading the Saints in tackles and interceptions.

Alex Molden and linebacker Mark Fields. Haslett believes he will be better without them.

Defensive end **Darren Howard** was outstanding as a second-round rookie and should avoid a sophomore slump on a line that included the league's top sacker in **La'Roi Glover**, run-stuffer **Norman Hand** and end **Joe Johnson**. No other front four in the division comes close. **Willie Whitehead** and **Jared Tomich** are good backups.

Haslett hopes the return of linebacker **Charlie Clemons** from injured reserve along with holdovers **Darrin Smith** and **Keith Mitchell** will continue to provide above-average play at linebacker, where rookie **Sedrick Hodge**, a third-round pick from North Carolina, will help.

The return of cornerback **Steve Israel** from a broken ankle will make up for the loss of Molden. **Kevin Mathis**, **Fred Weary**, **Michael Hawthorne** and **Fred Thomas** are the other corners, with **Sammy Knight**, ex-Seahawk **Jay Bellamy**, **Chris Oldham** and **Rob Kelly** at safety.

The Saints are taking applications for placekicker after cutting Doug Brien. **Jeff Hall** is the leading candidate. **Toby Gowin** is the punter. **McAllister** can help Morton return punts and kicks if necessary.

 2001 SCHEDULE				
WEEK				
1	9/9	at Buffalo	1:00	
2	9/16	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00	
3	9/23	OPEN DATE		
4	9/30	at N.Y. Giants	1:00	
5	10/7	MINNESOTA	1:00	
6	10/14	at Carolina	1:00	
7	10/21	ATLANTA	1:00	
8	10/28	at St. Louis	1:00	
9	11/4	N.Y. JETS	8:30	
10	11/11	at San Francisco	4:15	
11	11/18	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00	
12	11/25	at New England	4:05	
13	12/2	CAROLINA	1:00	
14	12/9	at Atlanta	1:00	
15	12/17	ST. LOUIS	9:00	
16	12/23	at Tampa Bay	1:00	
17	12/30	WASHINGTON	8:30	

*All times Eastern

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Jim Haslett, head coach

Hubbard Alexander, wide receivers; **Dave Atkins**, running backs; **Winston Moss**, linebackers; **Frank Cignetti, Jr.**, quarterbacks coach; **Al Everest**, special teams; **Rock Gullickson**, strength and conditioning; **Evan Marcus**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Jack Henry**, offensive line; **Mike McCarthy**, offensive coordinator; **Mike Woodford**, defensive assistant; **Bob Palcic**, tight ends; **Jim Hostler**, offensive assistant; **Rick Venturi**, assistant head coach/secondary; **Ron Zook**, defensive coordinator; **Sam Clancy**, defensive line; **Joe Baker**, secondary/special teams assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
18	Blake, Jeff	QB	6-0	210	12/04/70	8 East Carolina
12	Delhomme, Jake	QB	6-2	205	01/10/75	1 Southwestern Louisiana
2	Brooks, Aaron	QB	6-4	205	03/24/76	1 Virginia

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
62	Fontenot, Jerry	C	6-3	300	11/21/66	12 Texas A&M
63	Williams, Wally	G	6-2	321	02/19/71	8 Florida A&M
77	Roaf, William	T	6-5	312	04/18/70	8 Louisiana Tech
69	Ackerman, Tom	C	6-3	296	09/06/72	5 Eastern Washington
65	Naeole, Chris	G	6-3	313	12/25/74	4 Colorado
68	Turley, Kyle	T	6-5	300	09/24/75	3 San Diego State
78	Terrell, Daryl	T	6-5	296	01/25/75	2 Southern Mississippi
76	Reyes, Tutan	T	6-3	299	10/28/77	0 Mississippi

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
34	Williams, Ricky	RB	5-10	236	05/21/77	2 Texas
44	Smith, Terrelle	RB	6-0	246	03/12/78	1 Arizona State
30	Morton, Chad	RB	5-8	187	04/04/77	1 Southern California
47	Houser, Kevin	RB	6-2	250	08/23/77	1 Ohio State

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Jackson, Willie	WR	6-1	212	08/16/71	6 Florida
87	Horn, Joe	WR	6-1	206	01/16/72	5 Itawamba J.C.
83	Poole, Keith	WR	6-0	193	06/18/74	4 Arizona State
	Connell, Albert	WR	6-0	179	05/13/74	4 Texas A&M
80	Wilson, Robert	WR	5-11	176	06/23/74	3 Florida A&M
85	Cleeland, Cam	TE	6-4	272	08/15/75	2 Washington
81	Hall, Lamont	TE	6-4	260	11/16/74	2 Clemson
89	Stachelski, Dave	TE	6-3	245	03/01/77	1 Boise State
84	Wheatley, Austin	TE	6-3	254	11/16/77	1 Iowa

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Johnson, Joe	DE	6-4	270	07/11/72	6 Louisville
99	Hand, Norman	DT	6-3	313	09/04/72	5 Mississippi
97	Glover, La'Roi	DT	6-2	285	07/04/74	5 San Diego State
92	Chase, Martin	DT	6-2	310	12/19/74	2 Oklahoma
98	Whitehead, William	DE	6-3	285	01/16/73	2 Auburn
93	Howard, Darren	DE	6-3	281	11/19/76	1 Kansas State
61	Seals, Richard	DT	6-3	299	03/18/76	0 Utah

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Oldham, Chris	S	5-9	200	10/26/68	11 Oregon
21	Israel, Steve	CB	5-11	197	03/16/69	8 Pittsburgh
20	Bellamy, Jay	S	5-11	199	07/08/72	7 Rutgers
22	Thomas, Fred	CB	5-9	172	09/11/73	5 Tennessee-Martin
29	Knight, Sammy	S	6-0	205	09/10/75	4 Southern California
23	Mathis, Kevin	CB	5-9	181	04/29/74	4 Texas A&M-Commerce
24	Weary, Fred	CB	5-10	181	04/12/74	3 Florida
26	Harris, Corey	CB	5-10	191	11/28/76	2 North Alabama
36	Hawthorne, Michael	CB	6-3	196	01/26/77	1 Purdue
37	Gleason, Steve	S	5-11	210	03/19/77	1 Washington State

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
54	Smith, Darrin	LB	6-1	230	04/15/70	8 Miami (FL)
56	Clemons, Charlie	LB	6-2	250	07/04/72	3 Georgia
59	Mitchell, Keith	LB	6-2	245	07/24/74	4 Texas A&M
51	Clarke, Phil	LB	6-0	241	01/09/77	2 Pittsburgh

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Gowin, Toby	P	5-10	167	03/30/75	4 North Texas
9	Hall, Jeff	K	6-10	190	7/30/76	1 Tennessee
5	Hilbert, Jon	K	6-2	220	7/15/75	1 Louisville

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	23	McAllister, Deuce	RB	6-1	220	12/27/78	Mississippi
3	8	Hodge, Sedrick	LB	6-3	244	09/13/78	North Carolina
3	19	Smith, Kenny	DE	6-3	300	09/08/77	Alabama
4	20	Norris, Moran	RB	6-1	245	06/16/78	Kansas
5	22	Ojo, Onomo	WR	6-4	200	—	California-Davis
6	22	White, Mitch	T	6-6	310	03/25/78	Oregon State
7	21	Davis, Ennis	DT	6-3	305	12/02/77	Southern California



In his first year at the helm of the 49ers, mobile Jeff Garcia (top) broke the team's single-season yardage mark and threw three of his 31 touchdowns to J.J. Stokes, who led the team with an average of 17.1 yards per touch.

End declared to short rebuilding phase; the Niners are back to competing for a division title.

Face it, the 49ers are simply smarter than most other teams. Ignore them at your risk. While some teams require decades to "rebuild," the 49ers are clearly on their way back up after only two down seasons. Last year, General Manager Bill Walsh parlayed seven draft picks into 11 and came away with six players who became starters on a defense that gave up only 30 points in four wins down the stretch. This year, in his final draft before retiring, Walsh was content to add quality by trading up and getting the pass rusher he craved, **Andre Carter**.

They began this offseason by releasing veteran linebackers Ken Norton Jr. and Winfred Tubbs and letting 16-game starter at defensive end Anthony Pleasant and leading rusher Charlie Garner go in free agency. But the 49ers figure they don't need experience to win now. They are learning how to win with youth.

Elusive Garcia rocks Haight, 3Com

Walsh predicted before last season that unsung **Jeff Garcia** would finish among the top 10 passers in the league. Wrong again. Garcia not only finished in the top five, he broke the team's single-season yardage record held by Steve Young. It was a tribute to coach Steve Mariucci and to offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg, who got rewarded with the head-coaching job in Detroit.

Garcia's passing was complemented by his running and his ability to avoid the rush. He was sacked only 24 times in 561 pass attempts and his 5.8-yard rushing average was Young-like. Behind Garcia, the 49ers are inexperienced with second-year players

Tim Rattay and **Giovanni Carmazzi**, but this franchise obviously has a way of making quarterbacks. Overnight, Garcia has gone from stopgap to long-term.

Life without receiver Jerry Rice will be different, but not necessarily worse. Rice caught 75 passes, seven for touchdowns, but the 49ers are confident they can make up that production. **Terrell Owens** is a terror after the catch and third-year prospect **Tai Streets** finally appears healthy enough to challenge **J.J. Stokes** for a key role. **Greg Clark** is a very good tight end who hopes the injury bug is behind him. **Justin Swift** and **Terrence Dupree** are his backups.

Sorry, Charlie

Running back is an interesting position because the 49ers were resigned to part with the versatile and productive Garner in favor of the unknown. After accounting for nearly 1,800 yards rushing and receiving, Garner overpriced himself across the bay to Oakland, but coaches are confident he can be replaced. If second-year stud **Paul Smith** doesn't beat out **Fred Beasley** at fullback, he will be on the field at tailback. Third-year man **Terry Jackson** also looks ready to contribute more. **Garrison Hearst** remains a long shot to recover sufficiently from repeated leg surgeries. Third-round draft choice **Kevan Barlow** could step in as a rookie. Holdover **Jonas Lewis** is another possibility.

The offensive line looks strong and intact with tackles **Derrick Deese** and **Scott Gragg**, guards **Ray Brown** and **Dave Fiore** and center **Jeremy Newberry**. It is the most stable 49er line in years and was ignored in the draft. **Matt Willig**, **Tyrone Hopson** and **Ben Lynch** are the top reserves.

Defensive tackle **Bryant Young** is the All-Pro around whom the 49ers plan to build their defense. He led the team in sacks last year and continues to perform at a high level despite injuries and a lack of continuity

TEAM STATS

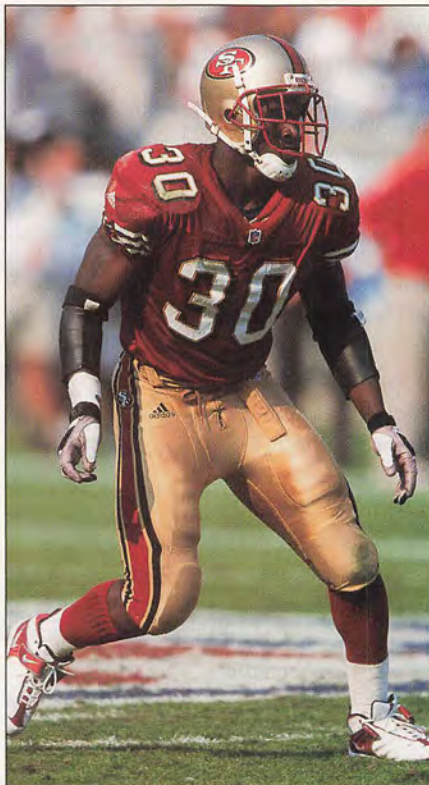
		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	377.5	4
RUSHING	112.6	18
PASSING	264.9	4
SCORING	388	6T
PUNT RETURNS	8.5	22T
KICK RETURNS	19.1	28
RED ZONE TD %	59.7	4

TEAM STATS

		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	356.8	29
AGAINST RUSH	112.1	16
AGAINST PASS	244.7	29
PTS. ALLOWED	422	28
INTERCEPTIONS	13	23
SACKS	38	18T
TURNOVER DIFF.	+2	13T



TAI STREETS
19 RECEPTIONS 15.1 AVG



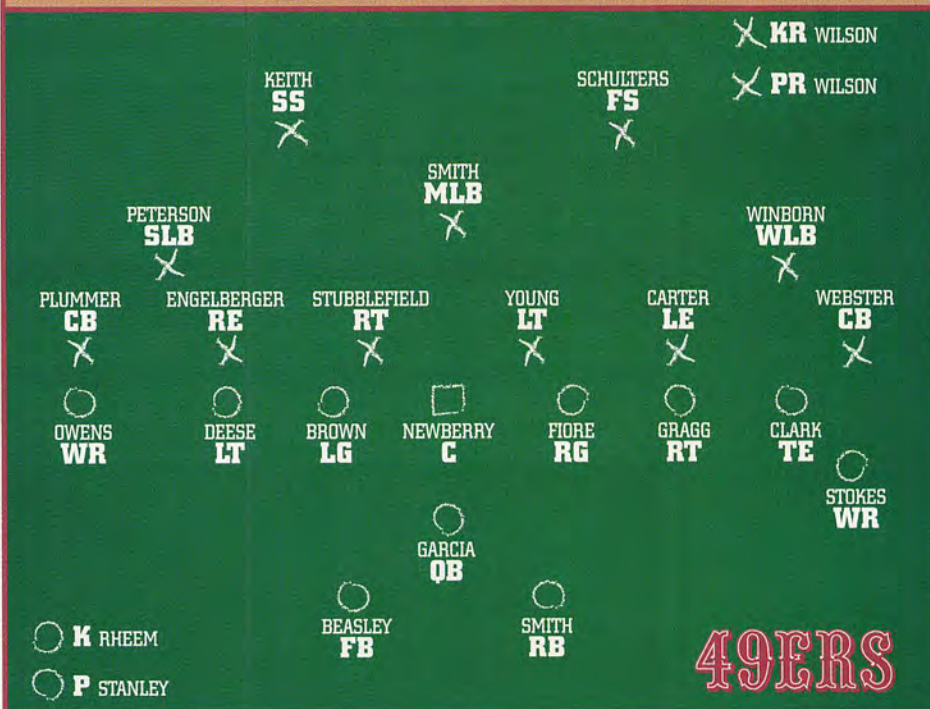
Veteran defensive tackle Bryant Young (left) led the 49ers in sacks with 9.5 last season, while third-year safety Lance Schulters totaled a career-high 90 tackles.

around him. Walsh lamented that he hadn't been able to pair Young with a big-time pass rusher, so the 49ers were happy to trade up in the first round and land University of California defensive end Carter. Walsh hailed him as already superior to many pros because of his background as the son of former NFL

player and current New York Jets line coach Rubin Carter.

Uncertainty and inexperience will continue to challenge defensive coordinator Jim Mora Jr. as he tries to plug in more pieces to an emerging unit. The 49ers regained the services of tackle Dana Stubblefield after a vacation in

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE
09/03	L 28-36 at Atlanta
09/10	L 22-38 Carolina
09/17	L 24-41 at St. Louis
09/24	W 41-24 at Dallas
10/01	W 27-20 Arizona
10/08	L 28-34 OT Oakland
10/15	L 28-31 at Green Bay
10/22	L 16-34 at Carolina
10/29	L 24-34 St. Louis
11/05	L 15-31 at New Orleans
11/12	W 21-7 Kansas City
11/19	W 16-6 Atlanta
12/03	W 45-17 at San Diego
12/10	L 27-31 New Orleans
12/17	W 17-0 Chicago
12/23	L 9-38 at Denver

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Garner	258	1142	4.4	42	7
Garcia	72	414	5.8	33	4
Beasley	50	147	2.9	9	3
Smith	18	72	4.0	14	0
Owens	3	11	3.7	5	0
Jackson	5	6	1.2	3	1
Lewis	1	6	6.0	6	0
Stokes	1	6	6.0	6	0
Jervey	1	0	0	0	0
Mirer	3	0	0	3	0
Streets	1	0	0	0	0
Team	416	1801	4.3	42	15
Opponents	435	1794	4.1	31	22

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Owens	97	1451	15.0	69t	13
Rice	75	805	10.7	68t	7
Garner	68	647	9.5	62	3
Clark	38	342	9.0	34	2
Beasley	31	233	7.5	34	3
Stokes	30	524	17.5	53	3
Streets	19	287	15.1	39	0
Jackson	5	48	9.6	16	1
Smith	2	55	27.5	47	0
Swift	1	8	8.0	8	0
Team	366	4400	12.0	69t	32
Opponents	320	4185	13.1	78t	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Garcia	561	355	4278	31	10
Mirer	20	10	126	1	0
Rice	1	0	0	0	0
Team	583	366	4400	32	10
Opponents	558	320	4185	25	13

SACKS

Young 9.5, Buckner 7.0, Peterson 4.0, Engelberger 3.0, Killings 3.0, Heard 2.0, Okefor 2.0, Pleasant 2.0, Tubbs 2.0, Keith 1.0, Ulmer 1.0

Team 38.0, Opponents 25.0

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Steve Mariucci, head coach

Jerry Attaway, physical development; **Terrell Jones**, strength development; **Tom Batta**, tight ends; **Chris Beake**, defensive assistant; **Dwaine Board**, defensive line; **Bruce DeHaven**, special teams; **Greg Knapp**, offensive coordinator; **Brett Maxie**, assistant secondary coach; **Jim Mora, Jr.**, defensive coordinator; **Pat Morris**, offensive line; **Tom Rathman**, running backs; **Richard Smith**, linebackers; **George Stewart**, wide receivers; **Andy Sugarman**, offensive assistant; **Dan Quinn**, defensive quality control

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
5	Garcia, Jeff	QB	6-1	195	02/24/70	2	San Jose State
19	Carmazzi, Giovanni	QB	6-3	224	04/14/77	0	Hofstra
13	Rattay, Tim	QB	6-1	200	03/15/77	1	Louisiana Tech

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
65	Brown, Ray	G	6-5	318	12/12/62	13	Arkansas State
77	Willig, Matt	T	6-8	315	01/21/69	7	Southern California
67	Dalman, Chris	C	6-3	297	03/15/70	7	Stanford
63	Deese, Derrick	T	6-3	289	05/17/70	7	Southern California
78	Gragg, Scott	T	6-8	325	02/28/72	6	Montana
74	Fiore, Dave	T	6-4	290	08/10/74	3	Hofstra
60	Lynch, Ben	C	6-4	295	11/18/72	2	California
62	Newberry, Jeremy	C	6-5	315	03/23/76	2	California
66	Hopson, Tyrone	T	6-2	305	05/28/76	2	Eastern Kentucky

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Hearst, Garrison	RB	5-11	215	01/04/71	6 Georgia
40	Beasley, Fred	RB	6-0	235	09/18/74	3 Auburn
22	Jackson, Terry	RB	6-0	218	01/10/76	2 Florida
27	Smith, Paul	RB	5-10	234	01/31/78	1 UTEP
43	Lewis, Jonas	RB	5-9	210	12/27/76	1 San Diego State

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
80	Rice, Jerry	WR	6-2	196	10/13/62	16	Mississippi Valley
83	Stokes, J.J.	WR	6-4	217	10/06/72	6	UCLA
81	Owens, Terrell	WR	6-3	217	12/07/73	5	Chattanooga
85	Clark, Greg	TE	6-4	251	04/07/72	4	Stanford
89	Streets, Tai	WR	6-1	193	04/20/77	2	Michigan
88	Swift, Justin	TE	6-3	265	08/14/75	2	Kansas State
86	Jennings, Brian	TE	6-5	238	10/14/76	1	Arizona State

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
94	Stubblefield, Dana	DT	6-2	315	11/14/70	8	Kansas
97	Young, Bryant	DT	6-3	291	01/27/72	7	Notre Dame
90	Bryant, Junior	DT	6-4	278	01/16/71	6	Notre Dame
92	McGrew, Reggie	DT	6-1	301	12/16/76	1	Florida
91	Okeafor, Chike	DE	6-4	248	03/27/76	2	Purdue
95	Engelberger, John	DE	6-4	260	10/18/76	1	Virginia Tech
93	Milem, John	DE	6-7	290	06/09/75	1	Lenoir-Rhyne
71	Killings, Cedric	DT	6-2	290	12/14/77	1	Carson-Newman

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
30	Schulters, Lance	S	6-2	195	05/27/75	3	Hofstra
26	Parker, Anthony	CB	6-1	200	12/04/75	1	Weber State
23	Prigoleau, Pierson	S	5-10	191	08/06/77	2	Virginia Tech
26	Moronkola, Dee	CB	5-10	188	07/01/77	0	Washington State
29	Plummer, Ahmed	CB	6-0	191	03/26/76	1	Ohio State
36	Webster, Jason	CB	5-9	178	09/08/77	1	Texas A&M
28	Keith, John	S	6-0	210	02/04/77	1	Furman
38	Heard, Ronnie	S	6-2	215	10/05/76	1	Mississippi

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
50	Smith, Derek	LB	6-2	239	01/18/75	4	Arizona State
98	Peterson, Julian	LB	6-3	235	07/28/78	1	Michigan State
53	Ulbrich, Jeff	LB	6-0	249	02/17/77	1	Hawaii

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
4	Stanley, Chad	P	6-3	205	01/29/76	2	Stephen F. Austin
2	Rheem, Jamie	K	6-2	210	09/12/77	0	Kansas State

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	7	Carter, Andre	DE	6-4	250	05/12/79	California
2	16	Winborn, Jamie	LB	5-11	228	05/14/79	Vanderbilt
3	18	Barlow, Kevan	RB	6-1	235	01/07/79	Pittsburgh
6	6	Wilson, Cedrick	WR	5-9	180	12/17/78	Tennessee
6	16	Holman, Rashad	CB	5-11	190	01/17/78	Louisville
6	28	Holloway, Menson	DT	6-2	285	07/12/78	UTEP
7	9	Lincoln, Alex	LB	6-0	250	11/17/77	Auburn
7	24	Johnson, Eric	TE	6-2	230	09/15/79	Yale

Carolina. He was NFC Defensive Player of the Year for his 15-sack career year in 1997 and would love to regain that form. **Junior Bryant**, second-year prospects **John Milem** and **Cedric Killings** and third-year suspect **Reggie McGrew** will try to fill in on the line with Young, Carter, Stubblefield and second-year starting end **John Engelberger**.

The defensive star of the last rookie class was pass-rushing linebacker **Julian Peterson**, who reminded 49er fans at times of Charles Haley. The 49ers signed young middle linebacker **Derek Smith** from the Redskins to replace Tubbs. Second-round rookie **Jamie Winborn** from Vanderbilt will replace Norton. **Jeff Ulbrich**, **Jeff Posey** and **Artie Ulmer** are backups.

Secondary flashback

Last season's secondary resembled the rookie-studded secondary of Ronnie Lott, Eric Wright and Carlton Williamson in 1981. First-year cornerbacks **Ahmed Plummer** and **Jason Webster** nailed down

jobs during 2000, and fellow rookie **John Keith** played well enough to project as the starting strong safety for this season, with **Lance Schulters** moving to free safety. **Ronnie Heard** and **Zack Bronson** provide depth.

Chad Stanley is the punter. The 49ers are using training camp to find replacements for kicker **Wade Richey** and return man **Kevin Williams**. Draft choice **Cedrick Wilson**, a wide receiver from Tennessee, can return. ■

Receiver Terrell Owens was the 49ers' most dangerous man on the field last season, registering 22 plays covering 20 yards or more. Five of his 13 touchdowns covered 30 or more yards.



2001 SCHEDULE			
WEEK			
1	9/9	ATLANTA	4:15
2	9/16	at New Orleans	1:00
3	9/23	ST. LOUIS	4:15
4	10/1	at N.Y. Jets	9:00
5	10/7	CAROLINA	8:30
6	10/14	at Atlanta	1:00
7	10/21	OPEN DATE	
8	10/28	at Chicago	1:00
9	11/4	DETROIT	4:05
10	11/11	NEW ORLEANS	4:15
11	11/18	at Carolina	1:00
12	11/25	at Indianapolis	1:00
13	12/2	BUFFALO	8:30
14	12/9	at St. Louis	1:00
15	12/16	MIAMI	4:05
16	12/22	PHILADELPHIA	4:00
17	12/30	at Dallas	1:00

*All times Eastern



With the Weinke of an eye, the Panthers are changing directions yet again.

Overall, the Panthers are looking to overhaul. George Seifert didn't used to have to scramble like this in San Francisco, where players seemed to grow on trees. In one of the most baffling moves of the NFL offseason, Seifert released quarterback Steve Beuerlein. It's one thing to let go of

offensive front. Seifert watched the New York Giants revamp their offensive line with veterans and get to the last Super Bowl. After giving up a whopping 69 sacks and nearly killing the immobile Beuerlein, the line didn't give Seifert much choice.

The heir apparent at quarterback is **Jeff Lewis**, who once was John Elway's heir apparent in Denver. On the field, he has never been given much of a chance to earn any accolades, nor has he done much in practice to force the hand of his coaches. So this is a huge gamble by Seifert, who has only **Dameyune Craig**, **Matt Lytle** and rookie **Chris Weinke** behind Lewis. Heisman Trophy winner Weinke is the oldest of the bunch at 28 and has no less NFL starting experience than any of the others. He's ecstatic about his chance to start.

Receiving stable stocked

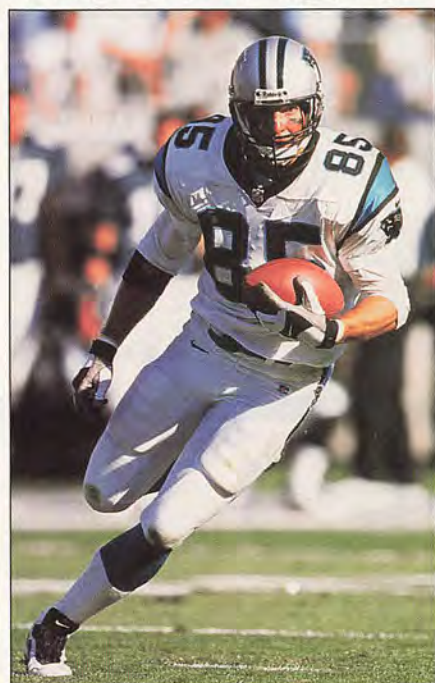
The quarterback will be helped by the expected return from injury of tight end **Wesley Walls** and wide receiver **Patrick Jeffers**, whose absence left Beuerlein with only **Muhsin Muhammad** as a viable option. Muhammad responded by becoming one of the elite receivers in the league. Big and tough, Muhammad tied Indianapolis' Marvin Harrison with 102 catches to top the NFL. **Donald Hayes** and **Isaac Byrd** both showed promise at receiver. Walls is a huge part of the passing offense and is coming off major surgery at age 35. If he takes up where he left off in 1999, great, but it's a gamble.

Still an enigma is running back **Tshimanga Biakabutuka**, injury-prone and inconsistent after five years in the league. The Panthers will continue to try to find a suitable replacement. Last year's experiment with **Natrone Means** failed. Young **Brad Hoover**

was a popular stopgap but may be more suited to fullback, where **William Floyd** was a salary-cap casualty. **Chris Hetherington** also is more of a fullback/utility back. The Panthers added **Adrian Murrell** with the hope that he could be the one to step up and be their feature back.

Left tackle **Steussie**, right guard **Donnalley** and center **Mitchell** will form three-fifths of Seifert's new offensive line. **Chris Terry** will get to stay at right tackle, where he showed inconsistency but promise in his second season. The left guard spot looks like it belongs to **Jamar Nesbit**, ahead of **Bryan Stolteneberg** and **Leander Jordan**.

Jeno James is a second-year backup.



Clutch tight end Wesley Walls caught 31 passes in eight games before missing the rest of the season with a torn ACL.

Joe Montana the way Seifert did in San Francisco; it's quite another to come up with a Steve Young.

The way the Panthers played last year, it didn't really matter who was taking snaps from center. Seifert decided it's time to move to a different mind-set and start over. Last year, he added old defensive line veterans Reggie White, Eric Swann and **Chuck Smith**. This year, it's the offensive line.

O-line adds veteran beef

Minnesota's **Todd Steussie**, Miami's **Kevin Donnalley** and Baltimore's **Jeff Mitchell** will become new starters on the



This may be Tshimanga Biakabutuka's last year to prove that he can be a productive No. 1 back for the Panthers.

NUMBERS	TEAM STATS		NFL RANK		TEAM STATS		NFL RANK	
	TOTAL OFFENSE	290.9	20		TOTAL DEFENSE	353.5	27	
	RUSHING	74.1	29		AGAINST RUSH	121.5	26	
	PASSING	216.8	12		AGAINST PASS	232.0	26	
	SCORING	310	21		PTS. ALLOWED	310	12	
	PUNT RETURNS	11.3	9		INTERCEPTIONS	17	13T	
	KICK RETURNS	21.1	20T		SACKS	27	26T	
	RED ZONE TD %	38.6	29		TURNOVER DIFF.	+3	11T	



LESTER TOWNS
106 TACKLES



Muhsin Muhammad is the NFC's leading receiver over the past two seasons with 198 catches.

Seifert is starting over again on defense, where his one-year fling with old veterans resulted in no better than the league's 27th-ranked defense, not good enough to scare anybody. How the Panthers beat the high-scoring Rams twice remains a mystery. But despite the final retirement of White and Swann, there is suitable material left on the front to make the Panthers better. If Smith and **Jason Peter** recover from injury, Seifert has four ends from which to choose, including **Jay Williams** and **Mike Rucker**. Williams turned into the most reliable after arriving from St. Louis. Peter is coming off neck surgery, so his future is uncertain.

Inside, **Sean Gilbert** was adequate, though still not worth his inflated salary.

Brentson Buckner was signed from San Francisco and will push **Tim Morabito** to start. Free-agent find **Al Lucas** and second-year man **Alvin McKinley** also showed promise at tackle, and rookie **Kris Jenkins** will get a long look.

Dan's the new man on 'D'

Top draft choice **Dan Morgan** could line up at any linebacker spot and improve the defense. Seifert released Lee Woodall and is rebuilding with some combination



Donald Hayes stepped in for the injured Patrick Jeffers and gave the Panther offense a boost with 66 catches for 926 yards.

2000 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	L 17-20	at Washington
09/10	W 38-22	at San Francisco
09/17	L 10-15	Atlanta
10/01	L 13-16 OT	Dallas
10/08	W 26-3	Seattle
10/15	L 6-24	at New Orleans
10/22	W 34-16	San Francisco
10/29	L 12-13	at Atlanta
11/05	W 27-24	at St. Louis
11/12	L 10-20	New Orleans
11/19	L 17-31	at Minnesota
11/27	W 31-14	Green Bay
12/03	W 16-3	St. Louis
12/10	L 14-15	at Kansas City
12/17	W 30-22	San Diego
12/24	L 9-52	at Oakland

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Biakabutuka	173	627	3.6	43	2
Hoover	89	290	3.3	35	1
Beuerlein	44	106	2.4	15	1
Hetherington	23	65	2.8	14	2
Lewis	8	36	4.5	19	0
Floyd	16	33	2.1	8	1
Bates	5	13	2.6	8	0
Muhammad	2	12	6.0	8	0
Craig	2	4	2.0	5	0
Walter	1	0	0	0	0
Team	363	1186	3.3	43	7
Opponents	426	1944	4.6	42	12

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Muhammad	102	1183	11.6	36	6
Hayes	66	926	14.0	43t	3
Biakabutuka	34	341	10.0	25	2
Walls	31	422	13.6	54	2
Byrd	22	241	11.0	34t	2
Mangum	19	215	11.3	31	1
Floyd	17	114	6.7	15	1
Hoover	15	112	7.5	16	0
Hetherington	14	116	8.3	19	1
Bates	5	38	7.6	23	0
Crawford	4	47	11.8	16t	1
Uwaezuoke	4	46	11.5	21	0
Hankton	4	38	9.5	14	0
Craig	2	4	2.0	4	0
Kinchen	1	7	7.0	7	0
Team	340	3850	11.3	54	19
Opponents	352	3938	11.2	62	19

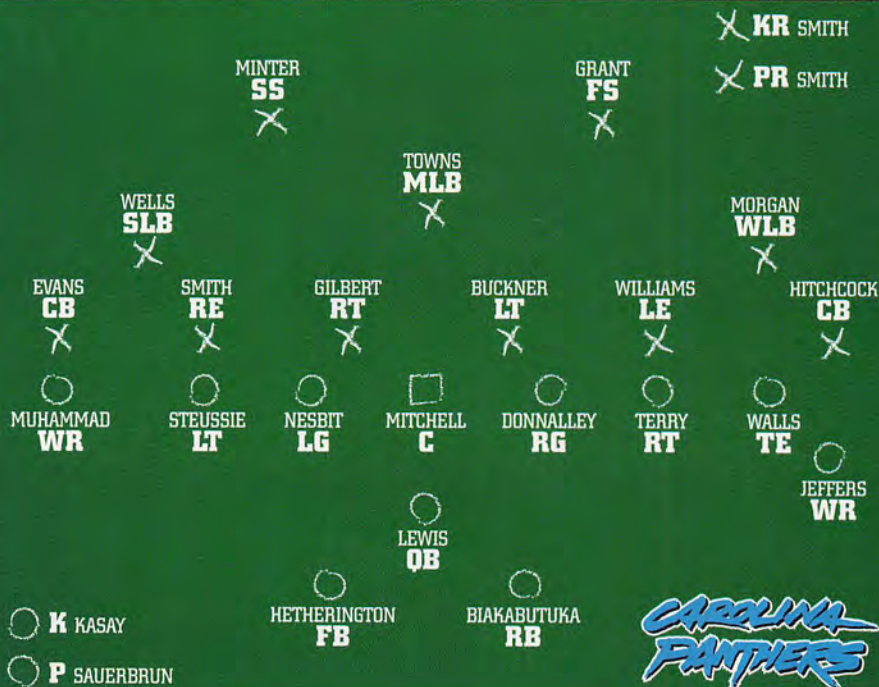
PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Beuerlein	533	324	3730	19	18
Lewis	32	16	120	0	1
Walter	1	0	0	0	0
Team	566	340	3850	19	19
Opponents	552	352	3938	19	17

SACKS

Williams 6.0, White 5.5, Gilbert 4.0, Rucker 2.5, Minter 2.0, Morabito 2.0, Navies 2.0, Peter 2.0, Swann 1.0

Team 27.0, Opponents 69.0

PROJECTED STARTERS



of Morgan, Lester Towns, Dean Wells and Hannibal Navies. Kory Minor also could challenge.

Safety Mike Minter, the most important cog in an unsettled secondary, was re-signed. The Panthers made Rashard Anderson and Deon Grant their first two draft choices last year and neither panned out. Anderson got lost in the transition from corner to safety and Grant got hurt. If Anderson can't hack it at safety, he'll move to the corner, where the Panthers couldn't keep Eric Davis, leaving Doug Evans and Jimmy Hitchcock as shaky veteran starters. Deveron Harper is a nickel back who could figure in.

The Panthers welcome back injured placekicker John Kasay from serious knee surgery, but are taking a chance because last year's replacement, Joe Nedney, was outstanding and hooked on with Tennessee. Todd Sauerbrun is the new punter, replacing Ken Walter. Rookie Steve Smith from Utah will replace Michael Bates on returns, after the eight-year veteran was released in May.

Former 49er Brentson Buckner (left) arrives as a free agent to boost the Panthers' defensive line, while veteran placekicker John Kasay hopes to bounce back from the knee surgery that caused him to miss last season.



<div>  2001 SCHEDULE </div>				
WEEK				
1	9/9	at Minnesota	1:00	
2	9/16	NEW ENGLAND	1:00	
3	9/23	at Atlanta	1:00	
4	9/30	Green Bay	1:00	
5	10/7	at San Francisco	8:30	
6	10/14	NEW ORLEANS	1:00	
7	10/21	at Washington	1:00	
8	10/28	N.Y. JETS	1:00	
9	11/4	at Miami	1:00	
10	11/11	at St. Louis	1:00	
11	11/18	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00	
12	11/25	ATLANTA	1:00	
13	12/2	at New Orleans	1:00	
14	12/9	at Buffalo	1:00	
15	12/16	OPEN DATE		
16	12/23	ST. LOUIS	1:00	
17	12/30	ARIZONA	1:00	

*All times Eastern

CAROLINA PANTHERS

George Seifert, head coach

Don Breaux, tight ends; Jacob Burney, defensive line; Chick Harris, running backs; Carlos Mainord, defensive backs; John Marshall, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Sam Mills, linebackers; Paul Boudreau, offensive line; Scott O'Brien, special teams; Alvin Reynolds, defensive assistant; Greg Roman, offensive assistant; Darin Simmons, special teams assistant/assistant strength and conditioning; Jerry Simmons, strength and conditioning; Richard Williamson, assistant head coach/offense; Turk Schonert, quarterbacks; Mike McCoy, wide receivers

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Lewis, Jeff	QB	6-2	211	04/17/73	4 Northern Arizona
2	Craig, Dameyune	QB	6-1	200	04/19/74	1 Auburn
9	Lytle, Matt	QB	6-4	225	09/04/75	1 Pittsburgh
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Donnalley, Kevin	G	6-5	310	06/10/68	10 North Carolina
73	Steussie, Todd	T	6-6	316	12/01/70	7 California
67	Stoltenberg, Bryan	C	6-1	300	08/25/72	5 Colorado
60	Mitchell, Jeff	C	6-4	300	01/29/74	3 Florida
75	Blackman, Jon	T	6-6	290	10/08/75	0 Purdue
70	Terry, Chris	T	6-5	295	08/08/75	2 Georgia
63	Nesbit, Jamar	G	6-4	330	12/17/76	2 South Carolina
76	Jordan, Leander	G	6-3	333	09/15/77	0 Indiana (PA)
78	James, Jen	G	6-3	292	01/12/77	1 Auburn
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Murrell, Adrian	RB	5-11	211	10/16/70	8 West Virginia
21	Blakabutuka, Tim	RB	6-0	215	01/24/74	5 Michigan
44	Hetherington, Chris	RB	6-3	249	11/27/72	5 Yale
33	Perry, Wilmont	RB	6-1	235	02/24/72	2 Livingstone
34	Dukes, Chad	RB	6-0	230	12/29/71	1 Pittsburgh
45	Hoover, Brad	RB	6-2	225	11/11/76	1 Western Carolina
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Walls, Wesley	TE	6-5	250	02/26/66	11 Mississippi
87	Muhammad, M.	WR	6-2	217	05/05/73	5 Michigan State
83	Jeffers, Patrick	WR	6-3	218	02/02/73	4 Virginia
86	Mangum, Kris	TE	6-4	249	08/15/73	4 Mississippi
81	Hayes, Donald	WR	6-4	208	07/13/75	3 Wisconsin
80	Turner, Jim	WR	6-4	212	11/13/75	0 Syracuse
14	Hankton, Karl	WR	6-2	202	07/24/70	2 Trinity (IL)
84	Crawford, Casey	TE	6-6	255	08/01/77	1 Virginia
10	Hood, Kerry	WR	6-0	196	12/16/76	0 South Carolina
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Gilbert, Sean	DT	6-5	318	04/10/70	8 Pittsburgh
91	Smith, Chuck	DE	6-2	262	12/21/69	9 Tennessee
99	Buckner, Brentson	DT	6-2	305	09/30/71	7 Clemson
96	Williams, Jay	DE	6-3	280	10/13/71	6 Wake Forest
90	Morabito, Tim	DT	6-3	296	10/12/73	5 Boston College
97	Peter, Jason	DE	6-4	295	09/13/74	3 Nebraska
68	Deligianis, Harry	DT	6-5	295	08/04/75	0 Youngstown State
93	Rucker, Mike	DE	6-5	258	02/28/75	2 Nebraska
72	Daniel, Robert	DE	6-6	275	10/19/75	0 Northwestern State
99	McKinley, Alvin	DT	6-3	292	06/09/78	1 Mississippi State
	Wilson, Gillis	DE	6-2	282	10/15/77	0 Southern University
71	Lucas, Albert	DT	6-1	294	09/01/78	1 Troy State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Evans, Doug	CB	6-1	190	05/13/70	8 Louisiana Tech
37	Hitchcock, Jimmy	CB	5-10	187	11/09/70	6 North Carolina
30	Minter, Mike	S	5-10	188	01/15/74	4 Nebraska
39	Richardson, Damien	S	6-1	210	04/03/76	3 Arizona State
31	Booth, Tony	S	6-1	195	08/03/75	0 James Madison
46	Anderson, Rashard	CB	6-2	204	06/14/77	1 Jackson State
27	Grant, Deon	S	6-2	207	03/14/79	0 Tennessee
29	Green, Ray	S	6-3	187	03/22/77	1 South Carolina
28	Harper, Deveron	CB	5-11	187	11/15/77	1 Notre Dame
42	Howard, Reggie	CB	6-0	190	07/17/77	1 Memphis
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
95	Wells, Dean	LB	6-3	248	07/20/70	8 Kentucky
57	Kyle, Jason	LB	6-3	242	05/12/72	4 Arizona State
52	Merkerson, Ron	LB	6-2	247	08/30/75	0 Colorado
53	Navies, Hannibal	LB	6-2	240	07/19/77	2 Colorado
58	Childress, O.J.	LB	6-1	245	12/06/76	1 Clemson
52	Minore, Kory	LB	6-1	247	12/14/76	1 Notre Dame
52	Reeves, John	LB	6-3	236	02/23/75	2 Purdue
57	Towns, Lester	LB	6-1	252	08/28/77	1 Washington
59	Hawkes, Michael	LB	6-0	242	04/11/77	0 Virginia
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Kasay, John	K	5-10	198	10/27/69	9 Georgia
5	Sauerbrun, Todd	P	5-10	211	01/04/73	6 West Virginia
6	Brice, Will	P	6-4	235	10/24/74	2 Virginia

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	11	Morgan, Dan	LB	6-2	242	12/19/78	Miami (FL)
2	13	Jenkins, Kris	DT	6-5	318	08/03/79	Maryland
3	12	Smith, Steve	WR	5-8	177	05/12/79	Utah
4	11	Weinke, Chris	QB	6-4	226	07/31/72	Florida State
5	12	Cooper, Jarrod	S	6-0	222	03/31/78	Kansas State
6	12	Brown, Dadrion	RB	5-11	209	05/12/78	Syracuse
7	11	Williams, Louis	T	6-4	300	04/11/79	LSU
7	27	Roberg, Mike	TE	6-4	258	09/18/77	Idaho



Aging Falcons roll the dice in hopes that their top pick will produce a few more Vick-tories.

The Falcons are getting older without getting better. It's a dangerous place for any team to find itself and nobody knows it more than coach Dan Reeves. More famous now as a spokesperson for heart medicine than a Super Bowl coach, Reeves admits he ponders retirement every year now. So the Falcons' trade to select top pick **Michael Vick** in the draft was designed to remind Reeves of his youth. In 1983, Reeves traded for rookie quarterback John Elway in Denver.

The Falcons are led by a 35-year-old quarterback, a 34-year-old receiver, a 36-year-old middle linebacker and a 40-year-old placekicker. Their best offensive lineman and best defensive back both turn 30 early in the season. When a team wins 14 games, as the

Falcons did only three seasons ago, that is the only number that matters. When a team wins only five and four games the next two seasons, respectively, age catches up quickly.

Empty seats in the Georgia Dome are getting to be an old story as well, so owner Taylor Smith didn't need his arm twisted to invest in Vick, who arrives as the fastest quarterback in NFL history before he enters a huddle. He will not need to master a playbook or read a defense to roll out on the goal line.

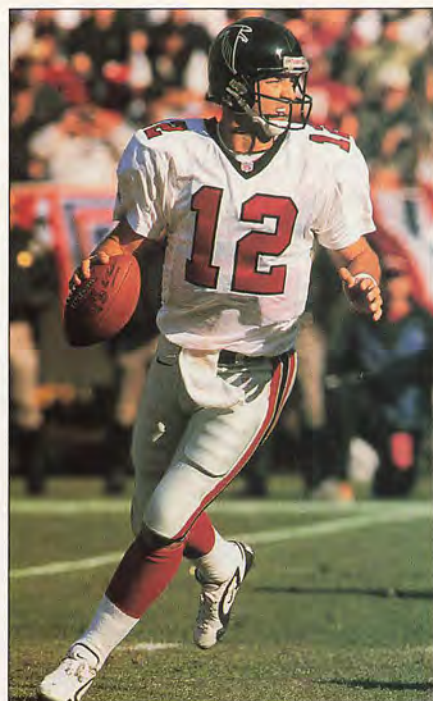
Staff overhaul

Reeves overhauled his coaching staff in hopes of infusing fresh ideas. Defensive coordinator Rich Brooks unexpectedly quit and was replaced by young linebacker coach Don Blackmon. Offensive line coach Art Shell and defensive line coach Bill Kollar were replaced by college coaches Pete Mangurian and Bill Johnson, respectively.

Vick joins former Georgia quarterback **Eric Zeier** as conversation pieces, if not competition, for **Chris Chandler**. By all accounts, Vick is a project after only two years as a college player, and he doesn't play anywhere near the style of the immobile veteran. But Vick's style could change the way football is played.

Chandler again struggled with concussions and injuries that make the quarterback position critical for the short-term as well as long-term future of the franchise. When Chandler is healthy, he still throws a pretty pass, but last year's results were his worst in years and he was demoted to third-string at

Jamal Anderson came back strong in 2000 to record his fourth 1,000-yard rushing season after missing almost all of the 1999.



Nineteenth on the NFL's all-time career passing yards list, Chris Chandler will devote much time this year to mentoring top draft pick Michael Vick.

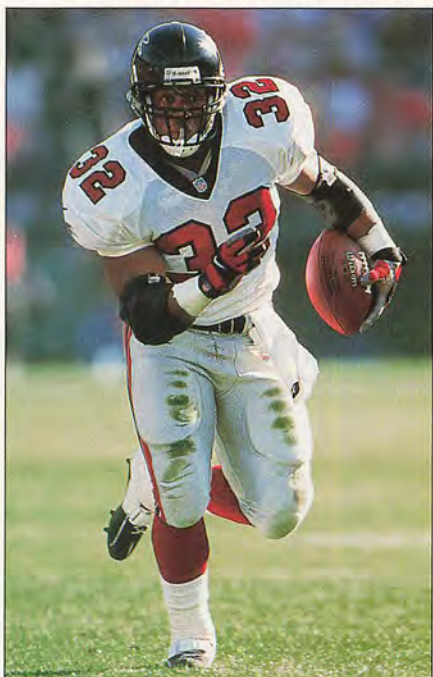
one point. Vick will test the patience of fans who will want to rush him into the lineup.

Anderson came off a 1999 knee injury to become a 1,000-yard rusher again, but his 3.6-yard average indicates he's not the stud he was in 1998. Neither is undersized fullback **Bob Christian**, who takes a pounding. **Maurice Smith** backs up Anderson.

Help wanted: Deep threats apply

Chandler would benefit from a more consistent deep threat at receiver, but the Falcons have yet to find a suitable replacement for Tony Martin. **Shawn Jefferson** led the team in receptions after arriving from New England, but his 32-year-old legs aren't much younger than reliable possession veteran **Terance Mathis**. Tight end **Reggie Kelly** cost a first-rounder last year and the Falcons still spent a second-round pick this year on the position, selecting **Alge Crumpler** of North Carolina.

Reeves could point the finger straight at his offensive line for much of the spotty play. Under Shell, only left tackle **Bob Whitfield** performed anywhere near his potential. Constant breakdowns up front



TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	249.6	30
RUSHING	75.9	28
PASSING	173.8	24
SCORING	252	27
PUNT RETURNS	9.4	17
KICK RETURNS	22.8	9T
RED ZONE TD %	35.1	30

TEAM STATS		NFL RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE	350.4	25
AGAINST RUSH	123.9	27
AGAINST PASS	226.5	24
PTS. ALLOWED	413	26
INTERCEPTIONS	15	21T
SACKS	31	17
TURNOVER DIFF.	-9	23T



KEITH BROOKING
18 CAREER STARTS



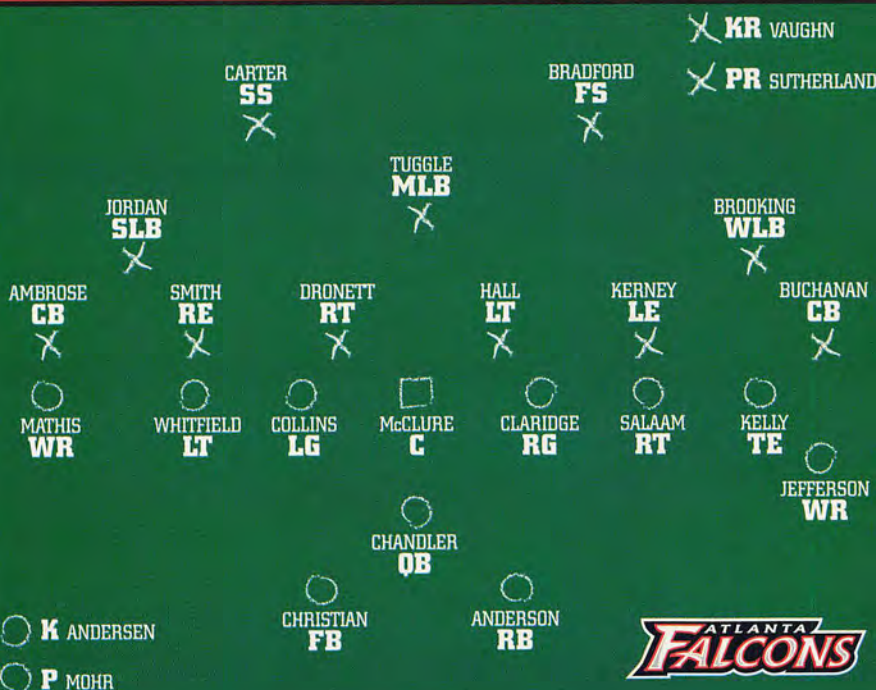
Veterans Shawn Jefferson (left) and Terance Mathis (center) continued to provide the heart and soul of the Falcon passing game, while steady corner Ray Buchanan was rock-solid on defense with a team-leading six interceptions.

frustrated the Falcons' 30th-ranked attack. Left guard and center are trouble spots. Calvin Collins, Bob Hallen and Chris Banks all took turns at left guard last season opposite rookie right guard Travis Claridge. Todd McClure or rookie Robert Garza are expected to beat out Collins and Evan Pilgrim at center. Ephraim Salaam is the right tackle, but will get competition from Michael Thompson, who is coming off an Achilles injury. If this group gets it

together under Mangurian, Anderson's rushing average will improve.

The defense struggled after season-ending injuries to linebackers Jessie Tuggle and Keith Brooking. Both are expected back strong, but Tuggle is one of the oldest linebackers in the league. Brooking's replacement, Chris Draft, played like he has a future. Antony Jordan has the inside track for departed Henri Crockett's job at strongside linebacker, with Draft, Mark Simoneau and Jeff Kelly also factors.

PROJECTED STARTERS



2000 FINAL STATS

Won 4, Lost 12

DATE	SCORE	
09/03	W 36-28	San Francisco
09/10	L 14-42	at Denver
09/17	W 15-10	at Carolina
09/24	L 20-41	St. Louis
10/01	L 10-38	at Philadelphia
10/08	L 6-13	New York Giants
10/15	L 29-45	at St. Louis
10/22	L 19-21	New Orleans
10/29	W 13-12	Carolina
11/05	L 14-27	Tampa Bay
11/12	L 10-13	at Detroit
11/19	L 6-16	at San Francisco
11/26	L 14-41	at Oakland
12/03	L 10-30	Seattle
12/17	L 7-23	at New Orleans
12/24	W 29-13	Kansas City

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Anderson	282	1024	3.6	42	6
Smith	19	69	3.6	16	0
Chandler	21	60	2.9	16	0
Rivers	8	27	3.4	10	0
Christian	9	19	2.1	7	0
Johnson	3	11	3.7	8	0
Dwight	5	8	1.6	5	0
Jefferson	1	1	1.0	1	0
Kanell	1	0	0	0	0
Team	350	1214	3.5	42	6
Opponents	453	1983	4.4	85t	16

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jefferson	60	822	13.7	49	2
Mathis	57	679	11.9	44t	5
Christian	44	315	7.2	19	0
Anderson	42	382	9.1	55	0
Kelly	31	340	11.0	37t	2
Dwight	26	406	15.6	52t	3
Kozlowski	15	151	10.1	30	2
Finneran	7	60	8.6	14	0
German	1	10	10.0	10	0
Smith	1	5	5.0	5	0
Team	285	3166	11.1	55	14
Opponents	306	3766	12.3	85t	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Chandler	331	192	2236	10	12
Kanell	116	57	524	2	5
Johnson	67	36	406	2	3
Team	514	285	3166	14	20
Opponents	515	306	3766	23	15

SACKS

Hall 4.5, Smith 4.5, Wiley 4.0, Jasper 3.5, Kerney 2.5, Carter 2.0, Crockett 2.0, McBurrows 2.0, Swayda 1.5, Brooking 1.0, Draft 1.0, Dronett 1.0,
Team 31.0, Opponent 61.0



From left, linebacker Jessie Tuggle's age (36) and defensive end Patrick Kerney's dwindling production (2.5 sacks in 2000) are big concerns for the Falcon defense this preseason.

Slim pickings on lean line

Defensive ends Patrick Kerney, Brady Smith and Chuck Wiley managed only 11 sacks among them, not enough for big-league pass rushers. Travis Hall, Shane Dronett and Ed Jasper were strong inside, but the Falcons remain one of the smallest defensive lines in the business, without a starter over 300 pounds.

Cornerback Ray Buchanan re-signed for big bucks and will lead a secondary of cornerback Ashley Ambrose and safeties Marty Carter, Gerald McBurrows, newcomer Chris Hudson and Ronnie Bradford. Newly signed cornerback Conrad Hamilton will play a backup role.

After losing reliable punter Dan Stryzinski to Kansas City, the Falcons signed Chris Mohr from Buffalo. Ageless Morten Andersen remains the placekicker, but the Falcons need to count on more than his long field goals to regain their status as contenders. Return man Tim Dwight was lost in the Vick trade, so Darrick Vaughn will return kickoffs and rookie Vinny Sutherland will get a shot at returning punts.



2001 SCHEDULE

WEEK			
1	9/9	at San Francisco	4:15
2	9/16	at St. Louis	4:05
3	9/23	CAROLINA	1:00
4	9/30	at Arizona	4:05
5	10/7	CHICAGO	1:00
6	10/14	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00
7	10/21	at New Orleans	1:00
8	10/28	OPEN DATE	
9	11/4	NEW ENGLAND	1:00
10	11/11	DALLAS	1:00
11	11/18	at Green Bay	1:00
12	11/25	at Carolina	1:00
13	12/2	ST. LOUIS	1:00
14	12/9	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
15	12/16	at Indianapolis	1:00
16	12/23	BUFFALO	1:00
17	12/30	at Miami	1:00

*All times Eastern

ATLANTA FALCONS

Dan Reeves, head coach

Marvin Bass, assistant to head coach/pro personnel; Don Blackmon, defensive coordinator; Greg Brown, secondary; Jack Burns, quarterbacks; Billy Davis, linebackers; Pete Mangurian, offensive line; Rennie Simmons, assistant offensive line; Rocky Colburn, asst. strength and conditioning; James Daniel, tight ends; Joe DeCamillis, special teams; Bill Johnson, defensive line; Al Miller, strength and conditioning; George Sefcik, offensive coordinator-running backs; Gary Stevens, wide receivers; Ed West, offensive quality control; Thom Kaumeyer, defensive quality control; Brian Xanders, director of football systems

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Chandler, Chris	QB	6-4	226	10/12/65	13 Washington
15	Zeier, Eric	QB	6-1	214	09/06/72	6 Georgia
11	Johnson, Doug	QB	6-2	226	10/27/77	1 Florida

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
70	Whitfield, Bob	T	6-5	318	10/18/71	9 Stanford
61	Redmon, Anthony	G	6-5	308	04/09/71	7 Auburn
76	Banks, Chris	G	6-1	300	04/04/73	3 Kansas
68	Collins, Calvin	G	6-2	310	01/05/74	4 Texas A&M
66	Bernstein, Alex	G	6-3	325	08/11/75	0 Amherst
64	Hallen, Bob	G	6-4	305	03/09/75	3 Kent
74	Salaam, Ephraim	T	6-7	305	06/19/76	3 San Diego State
62	McClure, Todd	C	6-1	300	02/16/77	1 LSU
71	Claridge, Travis	G	6-5	308	03/23/78	1 Southern California
66	Thompson, Michael	T	6-4	318	02/11/77	1 Tennessee State
67	Shivers, Wes	T	6-5	318	03/08/77	1 Mississippi State
67	Snellings, Paul	T	6-4	295	11/05/75	0 Georgia

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
44	Christian, Bob	RB	5-11	232	11/14/68	8 Northwestern
45	Downs, Gary	RB	6-1	210	06/06/72	6 North Carolina State
32	Anderson, Jamal	RB	5-11	235	09/30/72	7 Utah
	McLeod, Kevin	RB	6-0	252	10/17/74	1 Auburn
43	Smith, Maurice	RB	6-0	236	09/07/76	1 North Carolina A&T

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
81	Mathis, Terance	WR	5-10	185	06/07/67	11 New Mexico
84	Jefferson, Shawn	WR	5-11	180	02/22/69	10 Central Florida
85	Kozlowski, Brian	TE	6-3	250	10/04/70	7 Connecticut
87	German, Jammi	WR	6-1	192	07/04/74	3 Miami (FL)
89	Kelly, Reggie	TE	6-3	255	02/22/77	2 Mississippi State
80	Baker, Eugene	WR	6-0	177	03/18/76	1 Kent
86	Finneran, Brian	WR	6-5	208	01/31/76	2 Villanova
82	Philyaw, Mareno	WR	6-2	208	12/19/77	1 Troy State
49	Neil, Dallas	TE	6-1	215	09/30/76	1 Montana
48	Rackley, Derek	TE	6-4	260	07/18/77	1 Minnesota

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
75	Dronett, Shane	DT	6-6	300	01/12/71	9 Texas A&M
77	McDaniels, Pellom	DE	6-3	280	02/21/68	7 Oregon State
98	Hall, Travis	DT	6-5	297	08/03/72	6 Brigham Young
91	Smith, Brady	DE	6-5	270	06/05/73	5 Colorado State
68	Carr, William	DT	6-1	284	01/13/75	0 Michigan
95	Jasper, Edward	DT	6-2	295	01/18/73	4 Texas A&M
99	Wiley, Chuck	DT	6-5	282	03/06/75	2 LSU
93	Swayda, Shawn	DT	6-5	294	09/04/74	3 Arizona State
97	Kerney, Patrick	DE	6-5	272	12/30/76	2 Virginia
73	Moore, Ron	DT	6-0	310	08/10/77	0 NW Oklahoma State

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
25	Carter, Marty	S	6-1	210	12/17/69	10 Middle Tennessee State
33	Ambrose, Ashley	CB	5-10	185	09/17/70	9 Mississippi Valley
34	Buchanan, Ray	CB	5-9	186	09/29/71	8 Louisville
23	Bradford, Ronnie	S	5-10	198	10/01/70	8 Colorado
47	Hudson, Chris	S	5-10	199	10/06/71	5 Colorado
22	McBurrows, Greal	S	5-11	210	10/07/73	6 Kansas
41	Hamilton, Conrad	CB	5-10	195	11/05/74	4 Eastern New Mexico
21	Williams, Elijah	CB	5-10	180	08/20/75	3 Florida
35	Carty, Johndale	S	6-0	202	08/27/77	2 Utah State
37	Vaughn, Darrick	CB	5-11	190	10/02/78	1 Southwest Texas State

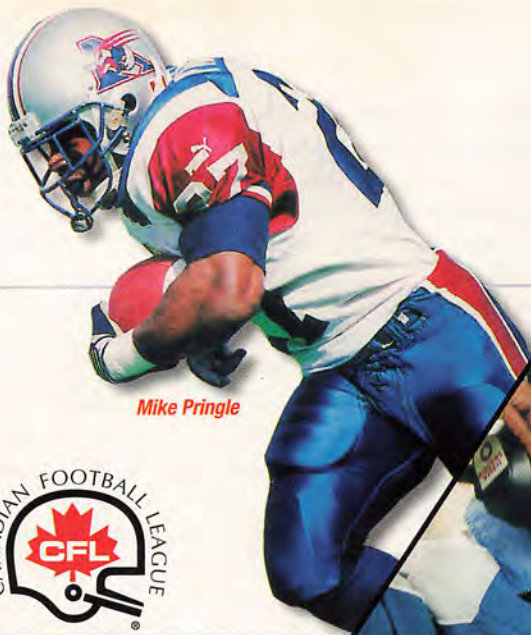
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
58	Tuggle, Jessie	LB	5-11	232	04/04/65	14 Valdosta State
52	Buckley, Marcus	LB	6-3	240	02/03/71	7 Texas A&M
50	Ulmer, Artie	LB	6-2	247	07/20/73	2 Valdosta State
56	Brooking, Keith	LB	6-2	245	10/30/75	3 Georgia Tech
55	Jordon, Antony	LB	6-3	239	12/19/74	2 Vanderbilt
54	Draft, Chris	LB	5-11	230	02/26/76	3 Stanford
51	Kelly, Jeff	LB	5-11	245	12/13/75	2 Kansas State
53	Simoneau, Mark	LB	6-0	233	01/16/77	3 Kansas State
50	Atkins, Corey	LB	6-0	235	11/11/76	1 South Carolina

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
5	Andersen, Morten	K	6-2	222	08/19/60	19 Michigan State
9	Mohr, Chris	P	6-5	215	05/11/66	11 Alabama
49	Neil, Dallas	P	6-4	215	09/30/76	1 Montana
	Holleman, Chad	K	5-11	200		1 Georgia

*roster as of May 15

2001 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	1	Vick, Michael	QB	6-0	215	06/26/80	Virginia Tech
2	4	Crumpler, Alge	TE	6-2	265	12/23/77	North Carolina
4	4	Garza, Robert	C	6-2	295		Texas A&M-Kingsville
4	7	Stewart, Matt	LB	6-3	236	08/31/79	Vanderbilt
5	5	Sutherland, Vinny	WR	5-8	188	04/22/78	Purdue
6	4	Garner, Randy	DE	6-3	279	11/28/77	Arkansas
7	15	Hall, Corey	S	6-3	198	01/17/79	Appalachian State
7	19	Forney, Kynan	G	6-2	300	09/08/78	Hawaii
7	26	Flemmons, Ronald	DE	6-5	255	10/20/79	Texas A&M
7	36	McCord, Quentin	WR	5-10	190	06/26/78	Kentucky



Mike Pringle

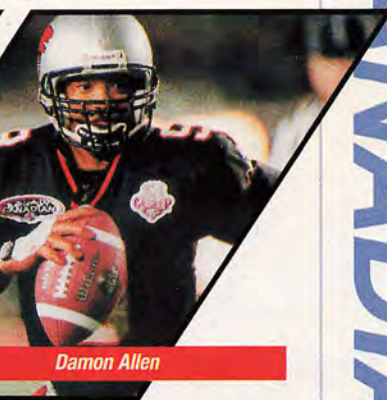
CFL

CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

PREVIEW



'Pinball' Clemons



Damon Allen

Alouettes have look of favorite in league that needs to 'get real.'

By RICK MATSUMOTO
Toronto Star

First it was Doug Flutie. Then Jeff Garcia. Now add Dave Dickenson and Henry Burris to the list of Canadian Football League quarterbacks who have defected recently to the National Football League.

But that's nothing new. Some of the CFL's best talent—especially quarterbacks—has been going "home" for as long as players (who didn't make it the first time) have been coming north to hone their skills before getting a second chance at playing in the NFL.

Rose Bowl hero Warren Moon had to cross the 49th parallel to the Edmonton Eskimos to prove that blacks could be a professional team's on-field decision-maker. And Joe Theismann showed in his three years as a Toronto Argonaut that a quarterback doesn't have to be 6-foot-4 to be successful. Moon and Theismann eventually joined NFL teams, and the rest, as they say, is history.

While there are those who are lamenting that the latest group of departees to NFL camps further weakens an always-shaky CFL, new Commissioner Mike Lysko isn't one of them.

He says that for the CFL to expect keep the Fluties and Garcias with a \$2.138 million (Canadian) salary cap per team, is absurd. Instead, he talks about positioning

the league into its rightful niche and making a success of what it is already rather than constantly seeking to be a northern version of the NFL.

"The NFL is the best football league in the world," he says. "Let's face that fact."

Taking a half-full rather than a half-empty position, Lysko, who replaced Jeff Giles as league president and John Tory as commissioner, views the successful migration of CFL players to the NFL as a positive.

"I think we have access to better players and will continue to have access to better players because they know that in their option year they have a chance to go to the NFL," he says.

"Do I like to see our MVP (Calgary's Dickenson), Henry Burris and our rookies of the year of the last three seasons go to the NFL? The answer is, of course not.

"The upside of players leaving our league is that they are doing extremely well. Jeff Garcia goes to the NFL (from Calgary) and lights up that league with San Francisco. In my mind, that's good for our league. The same with Doug Flutie. These players continue to be the strong supporters and advocates of our league and what it did for them.

"It shows the level of football that we've got."

Lysko's approach is that the CFL should concentrate on being the world's "second-best" football league.

He believes the league should acknowledge its own stars such as ex-player and now Toronto Argonaut coach Mike "Pinball" Clemons—who was as much a household name in Canada as the top NHL hockey stars—rather than wringing hands over the loss of Flutie or Garcia or Dickenson.

"People forget that when Doug Flutie was in Toronto there wasn't exactly filled stands," he says. "He did not put people in the stands when he was in Calgary or in Vancouver."

Lysko thinks CFL teams and their fans should adopt the mentality of college football in the U.S. Despite the fact that their stars leave after four years, U.S. colleges have no difficulty filling the stands. Fans simply refocus their attention on the next crop of players and create new heroes.

The CFL has an advantage in that many of its marquee players—the like of Clemons, B.C. Lions quarterback Damon Allen, Montreal Alouettes running back Mike Pringle, etc.—do not necessarily depart. Many remain in the league for their entire careers.

And that, rather than the handful that make it in the NFL, is where the CFL should be concentrating its strategy. With increasing clicks of turnstiles around the league and television ratings that have risen more than 30 percent over the past three years, the CFL has sound blocks to build upon rather than worrying about the few bricks that have fallen by the way.

EASTERN DIVISION



The pressure is squarely on the backs of the Montreal Alouettes. The Grey Cup game returns to Montreal for the first time since 1985 and Alouette fans clearly expect their team to be in the championship



Utah State alum Anthony Calvillo enjoyed a breakout year in 2000 at quarterback for Montreal, throwing for 4,277 yards and 27 TDs with only five interceptions.

game. Already, 55,000 tickets have been sold for the fall classic.

The fans have every right to expect the Als to be there. They, along with the Calgary Stampeders, have been one of the CFL's dominant teams since 1996, when the Baltimore Stallions of the ill-fated expansion attempt into the U.S. were reincarnated in Montreal. In the last five years the Als have never lost more than six games in a season. They've never finished worse than second and were first in the East the past two years. But it wasn't until last year that they finally advanced all the way to the Grey Cup game and then were upset 28-26 by the B.C. Lions.

General Manager Jim Popp, however, believes there's no more pressure on the team than has been there all along.

"Yes, we finally got over the hump last year by getting to the Grey Cup game, but going back to the Stallion (days), we've had a record that no other CFL franchise can match," he says. "The pressure will be the same to maintain that record."

At 72 years of age, Rod Rust takes over

as head coach from Charlie Taaffe, who opted for the top assistant's job at the University of Maryland.

Rust appears to have just one major hole to fill—that left by the loss of All-Canadian cornerback Davis Sanchez to the San Diego Chargers. Imports Eric Riddick and Alphonso Roundtree will battle to replace Sanchez. Otherwise, he has the CFL's best running back in Mike Pringle at his disposal, along with quarterback Anthony Calvillo, who finally

emerged as a top-caliber signal-caller last season. Glen Young, who was signed from Toronto as a free agent, will step into the line-backing corps. The secondary led by Barron Miles is strong.



Sherwood Swartz admits he made mistakes as a rookie owner last season. But he has taken bold steps to correct the errors of 2000, starting with the removal of J.I. Albrecht as the team's managing director. Also remedied is the head-coaching position, where Mike "Pinball" Clemons, who ended a brilliant nine-year career with the team in August to replace John Huard, returns for his first full season at the helm.

Under the euphoria of Clemons' enthusiastic leadership, the Argos made a belated run for the final playoff berth in the East, but fell a point short of Winnipeg. Now, with the adrenalin rush of last year's changes behind

him, Clemons faces the stark reality of not only fielding a competitive team, but one that will bring fans back to the SkyDome. Aiding him with that task will be the Argos' all-time leading receiver, Paul Masotti, who retired at the end of the 1999 season but rejoined the team as general manager this winter.

The Argos are not without talent. In Derrell Mitchell, they have one of the CFL's best receivers. Last year he hauled in 100 passes for 1,398 yards, fourth in the league. In running back Mike Jenkins, Clemons might have a slightly heavier replica of himself. The 5-foot-7 University of Arkansas product gained 872 yards while playing just half of last season.

The re-signings of Johnny Scott and Roger Dunbrack and return of Tyrone Rodgers give the Argos a strong defensive line. At linebacker, the signing of highly sought free agent Michael O'Shea to go along with Calvin Tiggie will more than make up for the loss of Martavius Houston to the Washington Redskins and Glen Young to Montreal. Adding Orlando Steinhauer is a plus for the secondary.

The Argos' major concern remains at quarterback, where veteran Kerwin Bell will fight off challenges from holdover Jimmy Kemp and a host of younger players.



If there was a disappointing CFL team last year, it had to be the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Coming off their 1999 Grey Cup victory over Calgary, the 'Cats should have been battling Montreal down to the wire for the right to represent the East in last fall's title game.

But after a quick 7-2 start, the Ti-Cats rolled over and played dead, going through the second half of the schedule with a reverse 2-7 record and finishing 9-9. Not the stuff of defending champions.

"After we went 7-2, the bottom fell out," says Ron Lancaster, Hamilton's head coach and general manager. "We never got it back to where it was."

Much of the problem was attributable to the loss of starting quarterback Danny McManus as well as his No. 1 backup, Cody Ledbetter. That forced Lancaster to employ rookies Billy Dickens and Todd Bankhead, which proved disastrous. Both were released at the end of the season.

With McManus and Ledbetter healthy, and the signing of University of Akron star Butchie Washington, the Tiger-Cats go into

the season secure once again at quarterback. The offense, in general, is in solid shape. In Darren Flutie (Doug's little brother), the quarterbacks have one of the finest go-to receivers in the CFL.

It's the defense that concerns Lancaster. As training camp approached, he could name only four players who would be assured of starting jobs: all-star defensive end Joe Montford, the CFL's returning sack leader; linebacker Sean Woodson; safety Rob Hitchcock; and tackle Mike Philbrick, whose return was uncertain because of outside-job complications.

At press time, the secondary looked shaky: Gerald Vaughn was trying out with the New Orleans Saints, Orlando Steinhauer jumped to the Argonauts and Donald Smith had retired.



Like their next-door neighbors, the Saskatchewan Roughriders, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers dipped into the backup quarterback pool of a CFL rival and came away with Khari Jones from the B.C. Lions. And, like the Riders, they found themselves with an excellent young starting signal-caller.

Fortunately for the Bombers, the similarities end there. Unlike the Riders, who lost star QB Henry Burris to the NFL, the Bombers have managed to hang on to Jones, who threw 31 TD passes last season, second-most in the league.

The problem, however, is the Bombers are having difficulty hanging on to the targets for Jones' passes. Albert Johnson, who won Rookie-of-the-Year honors and led the league in all-purpose yards, jumped to the Miami Dolphins, while Geroy Simon (51 catches, 725 yards) signed with Kansas City Chiefs and Robert Gordon (89 for 1,395) went to the XFL. On top of that, veteran Milt Stegall, the Bombers' second-leading receiver with 78 catches for 1,499 yards, was holding out for more money when camp began.

All that adds up to the team's head coach and director of football operations, Dave Ritchie, looking over a field of fresh, hopefully eager, talent.

"I feel like we're young again," Ritchie says. "We were young last year and we almost went to the show. Young guys will play hard. If they don't, they'll be hanging their hats somewhere else."

Ritchie is expecting holdover Markus Howell and free-agent signee Andre Arlain to

allow him to use two Canadian receivers, while rookies Wendell Montgomery, Jarvonn Jackson, Daryle Heidelberg and Geoff Drover compete for one import spot alongside Stegall.

Veteran center Dave Vankoughnet is retired, but Ritchie is confident his offensive line, anchored by 305-pound Dave Mudge and Moe Elewonibi, will be strong.

The Bomber defense will also sport some young faces, but veteran linebackers Lamar McGriggs and Brian Clark, along with all-star free safety Tom Europe and halfback Juran Bolden, will supply the stabilizing influence.

WESTERN DIVISION



The Lions won 13 games in 1999, but saw their Grey Cup aspirations vanish when they stumbled in the Western Final. So there was really no reason to think that after a disappointing 8-10 regular-season run last year, which included a midseason coaching change, the B.C. Lions would be taking part in their first Grey Cup bash of the new millennium.

But not only were they in the championship game, the Lions ended up guzzling champagne from Earl Grey's antique mug with a 28-26 win over everyone's choice, the Montreal Alouettes.

Now, Lions head coach Steve Burrato, who replaced Greg Mohns after six games last summer, faces the task of regrouping his charges as they attempt to defend that title. There's no reason to believe the Lions can't be back in the show seeking to win back-to-back Grey Cups for the first time in their existence.

Ageless quarterback Damon Allen, who threw for a league-leading 4,840 yards last year, returns to provide the offensive leadership. In the backfield he'll again have the powerhouse combination of Robert Drummond and Sean Millington to turn to. The pair rushed for a combined 1,833 yards and picked up another 1,283 yards as receivers.

Alfred Jackson, who caught 59 passes for 1,119 yards and 12 touchdowns, heads the receiving corps, which will likely be without Jimmy "The Jet" Cunningham, who opted for the XFL and won't be invited back.

The biggest missing ingredient from the Lions' lineup will be punter/placekicker Lui Passaglia, who announced his retirement after 26 seasons prior to the Grey Cup and

promptly kicked the Cup-winning field goal as his swan song.

Herman Smith, who led B.C. with seven sacks, re-signed with the Lions and will anchor the defensive line along with veteran Daved Benefield. Eric Carter, who topped the Lions with seven interceptions last year, returns, but Central McClellion, who had five picks, will be missed. He's looking for an NFL opportunity.



Nealon Greene's arrival as a complete quarterback—not just a scrambler with 4.4 speed—has turned the Eskimos into a Western contender once again.

"His development is what we anticipated when we got him," says Don Matthews, Edmonton's head coach and general manager. "He's going to be the next big, exciting quarterback in our league."

Matthews insists Greene had a strong arm all along, but like all young pivots he had to learn to read defenses and get to know his receivers. And until that happened last season, he relied on his speed and got labeled as a "running quarterback." But he finally appeared to mature into an all-around QB in 2000, as

ALL-CFL TEAM

OFFENSE

G—Pierre Vercheval, Montreal (Western Ontario)
G—Andrew Greene, Saskatchewan (Indiana)
C—Bryan Chui, Vancouver (Washington State)
T—Moe Elewonibi, Winnipeg (Brigham Young)
T—Thomas Rayam, Calgary (Alabama)
WR—Terry Vaughn, Edmonton (Arizona)
WR—Travis Moore, Calgary* (Ball State)
SB—Darren Flutie, Hamilton (Boston College)
SB—Derrell Mitchell, Toronto (Texas Tech)
QB—Nealon Greene, Edmonton (Clemson)
RB—Mike Pringle, Montreal (Cal State Fullerton)
FB—Sean Millington, B.C. (Simon Fraser)

DEFENSE

DE—Joe Montford, Hamilton (S.C. State)
DE—Herman Smith, B.C. (Portland State)
DT—Johnny Scott, Toronto (no college)
DT—Joe Fleming, Calgary (New Hampshire)
LB—Calvin Tiggler, Toronto (Georgia Tech)
LB—Kelly Wiltshire, Montreal (James Madison)
LB—Michael O'Shea, Toronto (Guelph)
CB—Eric Carter, B.C. (Knoxville College)
CB—Adrian Smith, Toronto (SW Missouri St.)
HB—Barron Miles, Montreal (Nebraska)
HB—Lester Smith, Montreal (The Citadel)
FS—Tom Europe, Winnipeg (Bishop's)
PK—Mark McLoughlin, Calgary (Ohio Central)
P—Tony Martino, Calgary (South Dakota)
RS—Marvin Coleman, Calgary* (Kent State)

*unsigned free agents
schools in parenthesis indicate college attended

underscored by the fact he threw 22 TD passes while giving up just six interceptions.

"That's a striking example of how he's matured," Matthews says. "To throw just six interceptions at age 24 is truly amazing."

Matthews is in the enviable position of having to make few changes to a squad that finished last season with a 10-7 record.

The biggest loss was hard-nosed running back Mark Nohra, who earned a tryout with the Washington Redskins after rushing for 760 yards in Edmonton. Matthews also released aging running back Troy Mills and picked up Toronto Argonaut free agent Ryan Terry, who will be the team's featured back.

Terry Vaughn, with 94 receptions for 1,216 yards last year, leads a fine receiving corps that includes one of the real CFL finds of 2000, former Florida State star Kez McCorvey, along with Rick Walters and Canadian Nigel Williams.

Linebacker Grant Carter and Henry "Gizmo" Williams, a wide receiver and the CFL's all-time leading kickoff and punt return man, have retired. But Matthews has adequate veterans to take their place.



For the first time since ... well, it seems like since dinosaurs roamed Alberta ... the Stampeders appear to be heading into the season without a proven, front-line quarterback.

In 1996, when a financially struggling Stampeders franchise could no longer afford Doug Flutie, and let him go to Toronto, there was Jeff Garcia ready to step into the breach. Then, when Garcia bolted to the San Francisco 49ers in 1999, Dave Dickenson took over and promptly took Calgary to a Grey Cup triumph. But now that they've lost Dickenson to the San Diego Chargers, Stampeders GM and head coach Wally Buono finds the quarterback shelf of his cupboard bare.

"We'll get a quarterback," assures Buono, who spent the late winter and early spring weeks scouring NFL Europe camps and XFL games. "We've talked to a lot of people. We'll also look for a quarterback who may be cut because of the NFL salary cap."

Buono also lost a handful of players to the XFL, including running back Kelvin Anderson, the league's third-leading rusher last year with 1,048 yards on 263 carries. Others who jumped to the "rassling league" included defensive backs Marvin Coleman

and Jackie Kellogg and wide receiver Travis Moore. There was a chance that some may have returned to Calgary after the XFL season ended in April.

Buono had every reason to be confident that replacements could be found. All he had to do was point to Marc Boerigter, who came out of unheralded Hastings College and showed last year that he could well become a star in this league, with 63 catches for 1,092 yards. He'll be the go-to receiver for whoever lines up at quarterback, especially if Moore doesn't return.

One familiar figure who won't be back is Allen Pitts, the CFL's all-time leading receiver who at age 38 has finally reached the end of the line. Fullback Duane Forde signed with Hamilton, while defensive end Shonte Peoples accepted an offer from division rival Saskatchewan.

Fred Childress, Jamie Crysedale and Thomas Rayam will be the mainstays of the offensive line, especially if all-star Rocco Romano follows through with retirement plans.



Marvin Graves came to the CFL in 1994 hailed as the Argonauts' quarterback of the future. But the future never arrived for the former Syracuse University star in Toronto.

Now, seven years and three teams later,

he gets another chance to prove he can be a starter in this league. Barring a complete flop on his part or a trade that brings the team an experienced QB, Graves should be calling the signals when the Roughies open their season.

Graves' opportunity comes following the departure of star Henry Burris to the Green Bay Packers after just one memorable season in a Rider jersey. Obtained from Calgary as a free agent prior to last season, Burris threw for the second-most yards (4,647) in the league last season, attracting attention from a number of NFL clubs.

Ironically, the QB position is the only hole coach Danny Barrett will have to fill on offense. Curtis Marsh, the league's leading receiver last season with 102 catches for 1,560 yards, returns along with Dan Farthing and Demetris Bendross. Eric Guliford, who had 1,084 yards receiving, is expected to be back after a stint in the XFL.

Darren Davis, a slashing runner who picked up 1,024 yards in his rookie season, can be expected to supply more of the same.

Defense is where the Riders could be in trouble. Demetrious Maxie, who jumped to the Riders after four seasons in Toronto, moved on again, this time to the Chicago Bears. Also NFL-bound was linebacker R-Kal Truluck, who hopes to catch on with the St. Louis Rams.

If the Riders can sign Marvin Coleman, who played out his option with Calgary before going to the XFL, it will certainly bolster a young secondary as well as the return game. ■

2000 CFL FINAL STANDINGS

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	PF	PA
y-MONTREAL	12	6	0	0	24	594	379
x-HAMILTON	9	9	0	2	20	470	446
x-WINNIPEG	7	10	1	1	16	539	596
TORONTO	7	10	1	0	15	390	562

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	PF	PA
y-CALGARY	12	5	1	0	25	604	495
x-EDMONTON	10	7	0	1	21	527	520
x-B. COLUMBIA	8	10	0	1	17	513	529
SASKATCHEWAN	5	12	1	0	11	516	626

x-clinched playoff berth; y-clinched division title

OTL-overtime losses (Teams losing in overtime are awarded one point.)

2001 REGULAR SEASON Runs June 20 through November 4

2001 PLAYOFFS DIVISIONAL SEMIFINALS: Sunday, November 11
DIVISIONAL FINALS: Sunday, November 18

2001 GREY CUP OLYMPIC STADIUM, MONTREAL, Sunday, November 25
Street & Smith's prediction:
Montreal Alouettes over B.C. Lions

FREE AGENT MOVEMENT INDEX

Free agents who have signed with new teams

PLAYER	POS	OLD	NEW
Allen, Taje	CB	StL	KC
Armstrong, Trace	DE	Mia	Oak
Banta, Brad	TE	NYJ	Det
Barker, Bryan	P	Jac	Was
Bellamy, Jay	S	Sea	NO
Bennett, Donnell	RB	KC	Was
Brister, Bubby	QB	Min	KC
Brooks, Ethan	T	Ari	Den
Broughton, Luther	TE	Phi	Car
Buckner, Brentson	DT	SF	Car
Campbell, Matthew	G	Car	Was
Carter, Antonio	RB	Atl	Den
Chamberlain, Byron	TE	Den	Min
Compton, Mike	C	Det	NE
Connell, Albert	WR	Was	NO
Conway, Brett	K	NYJ	Was
Cousin, Terry	DB	Atl	Mia
Crockett, Henri	LB	Jac	Den
Crockett, Ray	DB	Den	KC
Darling, James	LB	Phi	NYJ
Davis, Don	LB	TB	StL
Donnalley, Kevin	G	Mia	Car
Dudley, Rickey	TE	Oak	Cle
Eaton, Chad	DT	NE	Sea
Edwards, Marc	RB	Cle	NE
Ellis, Ed	T	Was	SD
Emanuel, Bert	WR	Mia	NE
Fordham, Todd	T	Jac	Den
Garcia, Frank	C	Car	StL
Garner, Charlie	RB	SF	Oak
Greer, Donovan	DB	Buf	Was
Hape, Patrick	TE	TB	Den
Harbaugh, Jim	QB	SD	Det
Hartings, Jeff	G	Det	Pit
Hatchette, Matthew	WR	Min	NYJ
Herring, Kim	S	Bal	StL
Holmes, Kenny	DE	Ten	NYG
Holmes, Priest	RB	Bal	KC
Horne, Tony	WR	StL	KC
Hutson, Tony	G	Was	Oak
Izzo, Larry	LB	Mia	NE
Jackson, Tyoka	DE	Was	StL
Johnson, Brad	QB	Was	TB
Johnstone, Lance	DE	Oak	Min
Jones, Greg	LC	NYG	Chi
Jones, Michael	LB	Jac	Pit
Kalu, Ndukwe	DE	Was	Phi
Kendall, Pete	G	Sea	Ari
Kennison, Eddie	WR	Chi	Den
Kitna, Jon	QB	Sea	Cin
Kyle, Jason	LB	SF	Car
Lett, Leon	DT	Dal	Den
Lockett, Kevin	WR	KC	Was
Logan, Mike	S	Jac	Pit
Lucas, Ray	QB	NYJ	Mia
Lyght, Todd	DB	StL	Det
Maynard, Brad	P	NYG	Chi
McKnight, James	WR	Dal	Mia
Middleton, Frank	G	NYG	Oak
Mitchell, Jeff	C	Bal	Car
Mitchell, Pete	TE	NYG	Det
Molden, Alex	CB	NO	SD
Murrell, Adrian	RB	Was	Car
Nedney, Joe	K	Car	Ten
Owens, Rich	DE	Mia	KC
Patten, David	WR	Cle	NE
Perry, Todd	G	Chi	Mia
Peter, Christian	DT	StL	Ind
Phillips, Ryan	LB	Was	Phi
Pleasant, Anthony	DE	SF	NE
Rasby, Walter	TE	Det	Was
Rice, Simeon	DE	Ari	TB
Richy, Wade	K	SF	SD
Robinson, Damien	S	TB	NYJ
Rudd, Dwayne	LB	Min	Cle

PLAYER	POS	OLD	NEW
Sellers, Michael	RB	Was	Cle
Shaw, Terrance	CB	Mia	NE
Smeenge, Joel	DE	Jac	Chi
Smith, Derek	LB	Was	SF
Smith, Mark	DT	Ari	Cle
Spriggs, Marcus	T	Buf	Mia
Stryzinski, Dan	P	Atl	KC
Thomas, Chris	WR	StL	KC
Thrash, James	WR	Was	Phi
Tolliver, Billy Joe	QB	NO	Chi
Verba, Ross	G	GB	Cle
Vrabel, Mike	LB	Pit	NE
Walker, Denard	CB	Ten	Den
Ward, Dedric	WR	NYJ	Mia
Webb, Richmond	T	Mia	Cin
Wiegmann, Casey	C	Chi	KC
Wiley, Marcellus	DE	Buf	SD
Williams, Tony	DT	Min	Cin

Unrestricted free agents who re-signed

PLAYER	POS	TEAM
Barber, Tiki	RB	NYG
Bettis, Jerome	RB	Pit
Blackwell, Will	WR	Pit
Bowens, Fabien	WR	Sea
Braham, Rich	G	Cin
Buchanan, Ray	DB	Atl
Coakley, Dexter	LB	Dal
Davis, Rob	DT	GB
Davis, Tyrone	TE	GB
Dishman, Chris	G	Ari
Dunn, David	WR	Oak
Dunn, Jason	TE	KC
Ferguson, Jason	DT	NYJ
Fontenot, Albert	DE	SD
Frerotte, Gus	QB	Den
Gragg, Scott	T	SF
Griffith, Howard	RB	Den
Harris, Walt	DB	Chi
Hayes, Chris	DB	NYJ
Howard, Desmond	WR	Det
Jacquet, Nate	WR	Min
Jett, James	WR	Oak
Jones, K.C.	C	Den
Jordan, Andrew	TE	Min
Kirby, Terry	RB	Oak
Kozlowski, Brian	TE	Atl
Lyle, Rick	DE	NYJ
Mason, Derrick	WR	Ten
Mathis, Kevin	DB	NO
Matthews, Shane	QB	Chi
McBurrows, Gerald	TE	Atl
Minter, Mike	DB	Car
Mitchell, Brandon	DT	NE
Mitchell, Kevin	LB	Was
Mobley, John	LB	Den
Neil, Dan	G	Den
O'Dwyer, Matt	T	Cin
Perry, Ed	TE	Mia
Quinn, Mike	QB	Mia
Rodgers, Derrick	LB	Mia
Russell, Twan	LB	Mia
Saleh, Tarek	RB	Cle
Santiago, O.J.	TE	Cle
Schlesinger, Cory	RB	Det
Scroggins, Tracy	LB	Det
Sehorn, Jason	DB	NYG
Sharper, Jamie	LB	Bal
Shields, Will	G	KC
Smith, Darrin	LB	NO
Smith, Jeff	C	Jac
Stevens, Matt	DB	NE
Thomas, William	LB	Oak
Van Pelt, Alex	QB	Buf
Wilkins, Jeff	K	StL
Williams, Willie	DB	Sea
Woodson, Rod	DB	Bal

Unrestricted free agents as of May 15

PLAYER	POS	TEAM
Abrams, Kevin	DB	Det
Aguiar, Louie	P	Chi
Allen, Terry	RB	NO
Allred, John	TE	Chi
Andersen, Morten	K	Atl
Armstrong, Bruce	T	NE
Bankston, Michael	DE	Cin
Barber, Ronde	DB	TB
Barnhardt, Tommy	P	Was
Bates, Mario	RB	Det
Bates, Michael	WR	Car
Belser, Jason	DB	Ind
Bennett, Tommy	DB	Ari
Bericich, Pete	LB	Min
Bobo, Orlando	G	Bal
Bock, John	C	Mia
Booker, Michael	DB	Ten
Brigance, O.J.	LB	Bal
Bronson, Zack	DB	SF
Brooks, Barrett	T	Det
Brooks, Macey	WR	Chi
Brown, Cornell	LB	Bal
Brown, Corwin	DB	Det
Brown, J.B.	DB	Det
Brown, James	T	Cle
Buckley, Curtis	DB	Was
Buckley, Terrell	DB	Den
Bush, Steve	G	Cin
Bynum, Kenny	RB	SD
Byrd, Isaac	WR	Car
Canty, Chris	DB	NO
Carney, John	K	SD
Case, Stonely	QB	Det
Cherry, Mike	QB	NYG
Christie, Steve	K	Buf
Clark, Jon	T	Ari
Coates, Ben	TE	Bal
Coleman, Ben	G	SD
Cunningham, Randall	QB	Dal
Daluiso, Brad	K	NYG
Davis, Anthony	LB	Bal
Dilfer, Trent	QB	Bal
Drakeford, Tyrone	DB	Was
Drayton, Troy	TE	KC
Engler, Derek	G	NYG
Evans, Charles	RB	Bal
Gash, Sam	RB	Bal
Gedney, Chris	TE	Ari
Granville, Billy	LB	Cin
Grunhard, Tim	C	KC
Hamilton, Michael	LB	Cle
Harrison, Nolan	DT	Was
Hauck, Tim	DB	Phi
Hawkins, Courtney	WR	Pit
Hill, Eric	LB	SD
Hollier, Dwight	LB	Ind
Jackson, Greg	DB	SD
Jackson, Willie	WR	NO
Jenkins, James	TE	Was
Johnson, Anthony	RB	Jac
Jones, Clarence	T	Car
Jones, Donta	LB	NO
Joseph, Kerry	DB	Sea
Kannell, Danny	QB	Atl
Kelly, Rob	DB	NO
Koonce, George	LB	Sea
Lacina, Corbin	G	Min
Leeuwenburg, Jay	C	Was
Lincoln, Jeremy	DB	Det
Lodish, Mike	DT	Den
Logan, James	LB	Sea
Maddox, Mark	LB	Ari
Marion, Brock	DB	Mia
McAfee, Fred	RB	NO

PLAYER	POS	TEAM
McCleskey, J.J.	DB	Ari
McDaniels, Pellow	DE	Atl
McWilliams, Johnny	TE	Min
Mickell, Darren	DE	SD
Mickens, Terry	WR	Oak
Milne, Brian	RB	NO
Mirer, Rick	QB	SF
Mitchell, Scott	QB	Cin
Montgomery, Delmonico	DB	SF
Monty, Pete	LB	NYG
Moore, Jerald	RB	NO
Morton, Mike	LB	GB
Murray, Ed	K	Was
Myers, Greg	DB	Dal
Nails, Jamie	T	Buf
Palmer, David	WR	Min
Parker, Riddick	DT	Sea
Parten, Ty	DE	KC
Paup, Bryce	LB	Min
Perry, Darren	DB	NO
Pilgrim, Evan	G	Atl
Pourdanesh, Shahriar	T	Pit
Price, Shawn	DE	Buf
Pritchett, Kelvin	DT	Det
Reed, Andre	WR	Was
Rison, Andre	WR	Oak
Rivers, Ron	RB	Atl
Robbins, Austin	DT	GB
Robinson, Eugene	DB	Car
Roundtree, Raleigh	T	SD
Sanderson, Scott	T	Ten
Schlereth, Mark	G	Den
Semple, Tony	G	Det
Shedd, Kenny	WR	Was
Shelton, Damion	RB	Jac
Shepherd, Leslie	WR	Mia
Simmons, Clyde	DE	Chi
Smith, Fernando	DE	Min
Smith, Frankie	DB	Chi
Smith, Neil	DE	SD
Soutmire, Omar	DB	NYG
Spellman, Alonzo	DE	Dal
Stablein, Brian	WR	Det
Stewart, Ryan	DB	Det
Stone, Dwight	WR	NYJ
Swann, Eric	DT	Car
Thott, Dave	G	KC
Thomas, Lamar	WR	Mia
Thomason, Jeff	TE	Phi
Thompson, Mike	DT	Cle
Tomich, Jared	DE	NO
Tovar, Steve	LB	SD
Turner, Scott	DB	SD
Unutoa, Morris	C	TB
Uwaezuoke, Iheanyi	WR	Car
Wainright, Frank	TE	Bal
Walker, Darnell	DB	Det
Walker, Marquis	DB	Det
Walsh, Chris	WR	Min
Warren, Chris	RB	Phi
Wetnight, Ryan	TE	GB
Whittington, Bernard	DT	Ind
Williams, Charlie	DB	Dal
Williams, Kevin	WR	SF
Wilson, Jerry	DB	Mia
Wilson, Tony	LB	Chi
Wortham, Barron	LB	Dal
Wuerffel, Danny	QB	GB
Wunsch, Jerry	T	TB
Young, Floyd	DB	TB

2000 NFL SEASON RECAP

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Miami	11	5	0	.688	323	226
Indianapolis*	10	6	0	.625	429	326
N.Y. Jets	9	7	0	.563	321	321
Buffalo	8	8	0	.500	315	350
New England	5	11	0	.313	276	338

Central Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Tennessee	13	3	0	.813	346	191
Baltimore*	12	4	0	.750	333	165
Pittsburgh	9	7	0	.563	321	255
Jacksonville	7	9	0	.438	367	327
Cincinnati	4	12	0	.250	185	359
Cleveland	3	13	0	.188	161	419

Western Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Oakland	12	4	0	.750	479	299
Denver*	11	5	0	.688	485	369
Kansas City	7	9	0	.438	355	354
Seattle	6	10	0	.375	320	405
San Diego	1	15	0	.063	269	440

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
N. Y. Giants	12	4	0	.750	328	246
Philadelphia*	11	5	0	.688	351	245
Washington	8	8	0	.500	281	269
Dallas	5	11	0	.313	294	361
Arizona	3	13	0	.188	210	443

Central Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Minnesota	11	5	0	.688	397	371
Tampa Bay*	10	6	0	.625	388	269
Green Bay	9	7	0	.563	353	323
Detroit	9	7	0	.563	307	307
Chicago	5	11	0	.313	216	355

Western Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	6	0	.625	354	305
St. Louis*	10	6	0	.625	540	471
Carolina	7	9	0	.438	310	310
San Francisco	6	10	0	.375	388	422
Atlanta	4	12	0	.250	252	413

* wild card

SUPER BOWL XXXV

At Raymond James Stadium, Tampa Bay, FL
January 28, 2001; Attendance: 66,000

Baltimore	7	3	14	10	—	34
N.Y. Giants	0	0	7	0	—	7

SCORING

QTR TIME

BAL:	1	8:10	Stokley 38 yd. pass from Dilfer (Stover kick)
BAL:	2	13:19	Stover 47 yd. field goal
BAL:	3	11:11	Starks 49 yd. pass from Dilfer (Stover kick)
BAL:	3	11:47	Jermaine Lewis 84 yd. kickoff return (Stover kick)
NYG:	3	11:29	Dixon 97 yd. kickoff return (Daluiso kick)
BAL:	4	9:33	Stover 34 yd. field goal
BAL:	4	6:15	Jamal Lewis 3 yd. run (Stover kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

	BAL	NYG
Rushing Yards	111	66
Passing Yards	133	86
Total Yards	244	152
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-20	4-26
Third-Down Efficiency	3-16	2-14
Fourth-Down Efficiency	0-0	1-1
Time of Possession	34:06	25:54

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Baltimore—Ja. Lewis 27-102, Holmes 4-8, Je. Lewis 1-1, Dilfer 1-0; New York—Barber 11-49, Collins 3-12, Montgomery 2-5
Passing: Baltimore—Dilfer 12-25-153-1 TD-0 INT, Banks 0-1-0-0 TD-0 INT; New York—Collins 15-39-112-0 TD-4 INT
Receiving: Baltimore—Stokley 3-52-1, Coates 3-30, Ismail 1-44, Johnson 1-8, Je. Lewis 1-6-1, Sharpe 1-5, Holmes 1-4, Ja. Lewis 1-4-1; New York—Barker 6-26, Hilliard 3-30, Toomer 2-24, Dixon 1-16-1, Mitchell 1-7, Cross 1-7, Comella 1-2
Sacks: Baltimore—Washington 1, Burnett 1, McCrary 2; New York—Strahan 1.5, Griffin 1.5

SUPER BOWLS

1967	Green Bay 35, Kansas City 10
1968	Green Bay 33, Oakland 14
1969	New York Jets 16, Baltimore 7
1970	Kansas City 23, Minnesota 7
1971	Baltimore 16, Dallas 13
1972	Dallas 24, Miami 3
1973	Miami 14, Washington 7
1974	Miami 24, Minnesota 7
1975	Pittsburgh 16, Minnesota 6
1976	Pittsburgh 21, Dallas 17
1977	Oakland 32, Minnesota 14
1978	Dallas 27, Denver 10
1979	Pittsburgh 35, Dallas 31
1980	Pittsburgh 31, Los Angeles Rams 19
1981	Oakland 27, Philadelphia 10
1982	San Francisco 26, Cincinnati 21
1983	Washington 27, Miami 17
1984	Los Angeles Raiders 38, Washington 9
1985	San Francisco 38, Miami 16
1986	Chicago 46, New England 10
1987	New York Giants 39, Denver 20
1988	Washington 42, Denver 10
1989	San Francisco 20, Cincinnati 16
1990	San Francisco 55, Denver 10
1991	New York Giants 20, Buffalo 19
1992	Washington 37, Buffalo 24
1993	Dallas 52, Buffalo 17
1994	Dallas 30, Buffalo 13
1995	San Francisco 49, San Diego 26
1996	Dallas 27, Pittsburgh 17
1997	Green Bay 35, New England 21
1998	Denver 31, Green Bay 24
1999	Denver 34, Atlanta 19
2000	St. Louis 23, Tennessee 16
2001	Baltimore 34, New York Giants 7

SUPER BOWL MVPs

1967	Bart Starr, Green Bay Packers
1968	Bart Starr, Green Bay Packers
1969	Joe Namath, New York Jets
1970	Len Dawson, Kansas City Chiefs
1971	Chuck Howley, Dallas Cowboys
1972	Roger Staubach, Dallas Cowboys
1973	Jake Scott, Miami Dolphins
1974	Larry Csonka, Miami Dolphins
1975	Franco Harris, Pittsburgh Steelers
1976	Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh Steelers
1977	Fred Biletnikoff, Oakland Raiders
1978	Randy White and Harvey Martin, Dallas Cowboys
1979	Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh Steelers
1980	Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh Steelers
1981	Jim Plunkett, Oakland Raiders
1982	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1983	John Riggins, Washington Redskins
1984	Marcus Allen, Los Angeles Raiders
1985	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1986	Richard Dent, Chicago Bears
1987	Phil Simms, New York Giants
1988	Doug Williams, Washington Redskins
1989	Jerry Rice, San Francisco 49ers
1990	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1991	Ottis Anderson, New York Giants
1992	Mark Rypien, Washington Redskins
1993	Troy Aikman, Dallas Cowboys
1994	Emmitt Smith, Dallas Cowboys
1995	Steve Young, San Francisco 49ers
1996	Larry Brown, Dallas Cowboys
1997	Desmond Howard, Green Bay Packers
1998	Terrell Davis, Denver Broncos
1999	John Elway, Denver Broncos
2000	Kurt Warner, St. Louis Rams
2001	Ray Lewis, Baltimore Ravens

WILD CARD GAMES

Denver	3
BALTIMORE	21
Indianapolis	17
MIAMI	23
St. Louis	28
NEW ORLEANS	31
Tampa Bay	3
PHILADELPHIA	21

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Baltimore	24
TENNESSEE	10
Miami	0
OAKLAND	34
New Orleans	16
MINNESOTA	34
Philadelphia	10
N. Y. GIANTS	20

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Baltimore	16
OAKLAND	3
Minnesota	0
N. Y. GIANTS	41

SUPER BOWL XXXV

Baltimore	34
N.Y. Giants	7

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AFC STATS

RECORDS

Points: 513, Houston (1961); Miami (1984)

TEAM	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	XP	XPA	2PT	2PTA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
Denver	58	21	28	9	53	53	2	5	26	34	1	485
Oakland	58	23	28	7	56	56	1	1	23	34	2	479
Indianapolis	50	14	33	3	46	46	2	4	25	27	2	429
Jacksonville	40	18	22	0	38	38	1	1	29	33	0	367
Kansas City	44	12	29	3	40	40	0	4	17	23	0	355
Tennessee	38	14	18	6	37	38	0	0	27	34	0	346
Baltimore	32	9	20	3	30	30	2	2	35	39	1	333
Miami	34	16	15	3	33	34	0	0	28	31	1	323
N. Y. Jets	36	11	23	2	32	32	2	4	23	34	0	321
Pittsburgh	35	19	12	4	32	33	1	2	25	30	1	321
Seattle	37	10	21	6	33	33	0	4	21	25	1	320
Buffalo	34	11	20	3	31	31	1	3	26	35	0	315
New England	28	9	18	1	25	26	1	2	27	33	0	276
San Diego	31	7	19	5	27	27	0	4	18	24	1	269
Cincinnati	21	13	6	2	21	21	0	0	12	21	1	185
Cleveland	17	7	9	1	17	17	0	0	14	17	0	161
AFC AVERAGE	37.1	13.4	20.1	3.6	34.4	34.7	0.8	2.3	23.5	29.6	0.7	330.3

RECORDS

Completions: 404, Warren Moon, Houston (1991)

Touchdowns: 48, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Yards: 5,084, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Longest TD: 99 yards, Jim Plunkett to Cliff Branch, L.A. Raiders (1983); Stan Humphries to Tony Martin, San Diego (1994)

180+ ATTEMPTS	TEAM	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	TD%	LONG	INT	INT%	SACKS	LOSS	RATING
Griese, Brian	Den	336	216	64.3	2688	8.00	19	5.7	61	4	1.2	17	139	102.9
Manning, Peyton	Ind	571	357	62.5	4413	7.73	33	5.8	78T	15	2.6	20	131	94.7
Gannon, Rich	Oak	473	284	60.0	3430	7.25	28	5.9	84T	11	2.3	28	124	92.4
Grbac, Elvis	KC	547	326	59.6	4169	7.62	28	5.1	81T	14	2.6	29	213	89.9
Flutie, Doug	Buf	231	132	57.1	1700	7.36	8	3.5	52	3	1.3	10	68	86.5
Brunnell, Mark	Jac	512	311	60.7	3640	7.11	20	3.9	67T	14	2.7	54	289	84.0
McNair, Steve	Ten	396	248	62.6	2847	7.19	15	3.8	56T	13	3.3	25	142	83.2
Johnson, Rob	Buf	306	175	57.2	2125	6.94	12	3.9	74T	7	2.3	49	292	82.2
Frerotte, Gus	Den	232	138	59.5	1776	7.66	9	3.9	44	8	3.4	12	77	82.1
Couch, Tim	Cle	215	137	63.7	1483	6.90	7	3.3	79	9	4.2	10	78	77.3
Bledsoe, Drew	NE	531	312	58.8	3291	6.20	17	3.2	59	13	2.4	45	264	77.3
Dilfer, Trent	Bal	226	134	59.3	1502	6.65	12	5.3	59T	11	4.9	23	135	76.6
Kitna, Jon	Sea	418	259	62.0	2658	6.36	18	4.3	71	19	4.5	33	166	75.6
Harbaugh, Jim	SD	202	123	60.9	1416	7.01	8	4.0	62T	10	5.0	14	96	74.6
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	357	204	57.1	2402	6.73	14	3.9	61	14	3.9	23	129	74.5
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	289	151	52.2	1860	6.44	11	3.8	45T	8	2.8	30	150	73.6
Banks, Tony	Bal	274	150	54.7	1578	5.76	8	2.9	53T	8	2.9	20	152	69.3
Testaverde, Vinny	NYJ	590	328	55.6	3732	6.33	21	3.6	63	25	4.2	13	71	69.0
Pederson, Doug	Cle	210	117	55.7	1047	4.99	2	1.0	67	8	3.8	17	116	56.6
Leaf, Ryan	SD	322	161	50.0	1883	5.85	11	3.4	83T	18	5.6	31	155	56.2
Smith, Akili	Cin	267	118	44.2	1253	4.69	3	1.1	46	6	2.2	36	191	52.8
Mitchell, Scott	Cin	187	89	47.6	966	5.17	3	1.6	38	8	4.3	16	82	50.8

RECORDS

Number: 108, Rick Tuten, Seattle (1992)

Average: 46.9 yards, Greg Montgomery, Houston (1992)

Longest: 98 yards, Steve O'Neal, N.Y. Jets (1969)

60+ PUNTS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TB	BLK	OPP	RET	YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Lechler, Shane	Oak	65	2984	69	45.9	10	1	30	279	24	38.0	
Miller, Josh	Pit	90	3944	67	43.8	8	1	44	371	34	37.5	
Gardocki, Chris	Cle	108	4919	67	45.5	5	0	69	793	25	37.3	
Feagles, Jeff	Sea	74	2960	57	40.0	2	1	32	151	24	36.9	
Johnson, Lee	NE	89	3798	62	42.7	5	1	43	384	31	36.8	
Hentrich, Craig	Ten	76	3101	67	40.8	9	0	28	160	33	36.3	
Bennett, Darren	SD	92	4248	66	46.2	10	0	51	722	23	36.2	
Turk, Matt	Mia	92	3870	70	42.1	14	0	36	258	25	36.2	
Sauerbrun, Todd	KC	82	3656	68	44.6	8	0	43	559	28	35.8	
Barker, Bryan	Jac	76	3194	65	42.0	5	0	38	478	29	34.4	
Tupa, Tom	NYJ	83	3714	70	44.7	15	0	42	660	18	33.2	
Richards, Kyle	Bal	86	3457	55	40.2	8	0	41	382	35	33.1	
Pope, Daniel	Cin	94	3775	57	40.2	14	0	40	387	18	32.3	
Mohr, Chris	Buf	95	3661	57	38.5	5	1	51	544	19	31.4	

t = touchdown

TEAM SCORING

RECORDS

Points: 155, Gino Cappelletti, Boston (1964)

Field Goals: 39, Olindo Mare, Miami (1999)

Extra Points: 70, Uwe von Schamann, Miami (1984)

KICKERS	TEAM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Stover, Matt	Bal	30	30	35	39	135
Vanderjagt, Mike	Ind	46	46	25	27	121
Del Greco, Al	Ten	37	38	27	33	118
Mare, Olindo	Mia	33	34	28	31	117
Janikowski, S.	Oak	46	46	22	32	112
Christie, Steve	Buf	31	31	26	35	109
Brown, Kris	Pit	32	33	25	30	107
Vinatieri, Adam	NE	25	25	27	33	106
Hollis, Mike	Jac	33	33	24	26	105
Elam, Jason	Den	49	49	18	24	103
Hall, John	NYJ	30	30	21	32	93
Carney, John	SD	27	27	18	25	81
Lindell, Rian	Sea	25	25	15	17	70
Peterson, Todd	KC	25	25	15	20	70
Dawson, Phil	Cle	17	17	14	17	59
Rackers, Neil	Cin	21	21	12	21	57
Conway, Brett	NYJ	8	8	6	6	26
Lindsey, Steve	Jac	5	5	5	7	20
Lechler, Shane	Oak	7	7	0	1	7

RECORDS

Touchdowns: 23, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975);

Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)

NON-KICKERS	TEAM	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	2PT	PTS
James, Edgerrin	Ind	18	13	5	0	1	110
George, Eddie	Ten	16	14	2	0	0	96
Smith, Lamar	Mia	16	14	2	0	0	96
Anderson, Mike	Den	15	15	0	0	1	92
Harrison, Marvin	Ind	14	0	14	0	0	84
Taylor, Fred	Jac	14	12	2	0	0	84
Brown, Tim	Oak	11	0	11	0	0	66
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	11	9	2	0	0	66
Alexander, Derrick	KC	10	0	10	0	0	60
Wheatley, Tyrone	Oak	10	9	1	0	0	60
McCaffrey, Ed	Den	9	0	9	0	1	56
Gonzalez, Tony	KC	9	0	9	0	0	54
Smith, Rod	Den	9	1	8	0	0	54
Watters, Ricky	Sea	9	7	2	0	0	54
Bettis, Jerome	Pit	8	8	0	0	0	48
Chrebet, Wayne	NYJ	8	0	8	0	0	48
Prentice, Travis	Cle	8	7	1	0	0	48
Smith, Jimmy	Jac	8	0	8	0	0	48
Crockett, Zack	Oak	7	7	0	0	0	42
Dillon, Corey	Cin	7	7	0	0	0	42
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	7	7	0	0	0	42
Warrick, Peter	Cin	7	2	4	1	0	42
Lewis, Jamal	Bal	6	6	0	0	1	38
Gadsden, Oronde	Mia	6	0	6	0	0	36
Glenn, Terry	NE	6	0	6	0	0	36
Jackson, Darrell	Sea	6	0	6	0	0	36
Mason, Derrick	Ten	6	0	5	1	0	36
Morris, Sammy	Buf	6	5	1	0	0	36
Richardson, Tony	KC	6	3	3	0	0	36
Rison, Andre	Oak	6	0	6	0	0	36
Faulk, Kevin	NE	5	4	1	0	1	32
Brown, Troy	NE	5	0	4	1	0	30
Conway, Curtis	SD	5	0	5	0	0	30
Dawkins, Sean	Sea	5	0	5	0	0	30
Ismail, Qadry	Bal	5	0	5	0	0	30
Jones, Freddie	SD	5	0	5	0	0	30
Jordan, Randy	Oak	5	3	1	1	0	30
McCardell, Keenan	Jac	5	0	5	0	0	30
Moulds, Eric	Buf	5	0	5	0	0	30
Riemersma, Jay	Buf	5	0	5	0	0	30
Sharpe, Shannon	Bal	5	0	5	0	0	30

NFC STATS

RECORDS

Points: 556, Minnesota (1998)

TEAM	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	XP	XPA	2PT	2PTA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
St. Louis	65	26	35	4	56	56	4	9	22	23	0	520
San Francisco	49	15	32	2	43	45	3	4	15	21	0	388
Minnesota	44	13	31	0	42	42	2	2	19	19	0	367
Tampa Bay	41	17	18	6	40	40	1	1	25	30	1	365
New Orleans	41	14	22	5	37	37	1	4	23	29	0	354
Green Bay	36	13	21	3	32	32	2	3	33	37	1	353
Philadelphia	38	13	21	4	34	36	1	2	29	33	0	351
N.Y. Giants	39	16	22	1	37	37	0	2	19	25	0	328
Carolina	31	7	19	5	29	29	1	2	31	34	0	310
Detroit	33	15	14	4	29	29	4	4	24	31	0	307
Dallas	31	15	14	2	27	27	2	4	25	33	1	294
Atlanta	25	6	14	5	23	23	1	2	25	31	1	252
Washington	29	14	15	0	26	27	0	2	16	26	1	250
Chicago	22	6	12	4	21	21	0	1	21	26	0	216
Arizona	24	6	16	2	18	19	0	5	16	23	0	210
NFC AVERAGE	36.5	13.1	20.4	3.1	32.9	33.3	1.5	3.1	22.9	28.1	0.3	324.3

RECORDS

Completions: 377, Warren Moon, Minnesota (1995)

Touchdowns: 41, Kurt Warner, St. Louis (1999)

Yards: 4,614, Neil Lomax, St. Louis (1984)

Longest TD: 99 yards, Frank Filchock to Andy Farkas, Washington (1939); George Izzo to Bobby Mitchell,

Washington (1963); Karl Sweetan to Pat Studstill, Detroit (1966); Sonny Jurgensen to Jerry Allen, Washington (1968);

Ron Jaworski to Mike Quick, Philadelphia (1985); Brett Favre to Robert Brooks, Green Bay (1995)

125+ ATTEMPTS	TEAM	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	TD%	LONG	INT	INT%	SACKS	LOSS	RATING
Green, Trent	StL	240	145	60.4	2063	8.60	16	6.7	64	5	2.1	24	145	101.8
Warner, Kurt	StL	347	235	67.7	3429	9.90	21	6.1	85T	18	5.2	20	115	98.3
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	474	297	62.7	3937	8.31	33	7.0	78T	16	3.4	34	181	98.0
Garcia, Jeff	SF	561	355	63.3	4278	7.63	31	5.5	69T	10	1.8	24	155	97.6
Brooks, Aaron	NO	194	113	58.2	1514	7.80	9	4.6	53T	6	3.1	15	94	85.7
Collins, Kerry	NYG	529	311	58.8	3610	6.82	22	4.2	59	13	2.5	28	243	83.1
Blake, Jeff	NO	302	184	60.9	2025	6.71	13	4.3	49T	9	3.0	24	150	82.7
Cunningham, R.	Dal	125	74	59.2	849	6.79	6	4.8	76T	4	3.2	8	45	82.4
Beuerlein, Steve	Car	533	324	60.8	3730	7.00	19	3.6	54	18	3.4	62	331	79.7
George, Jeff	Was	194	113	58.2	1389	7.16	7	3.6	50	6	3.1	12	94	79.6
Favre, Brett	GB	580	338	58.3	3812	6.57	20	3.4	67T	16	2.8	33	236	78.0
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	569	330	58.0	3365	5.91	21	3.7	70T	13	2.3	45	262	77.8
King, Shaun	TB	428	233	54.4	2769	6.47	18	4.2	75	13	3.0	37	240	75.8
Johnson, Brad	Was	364	227	62.4	2505	6.88	11	3.0	77T	15	4.1	20	150	75.6
Chandler, Chris	Atl	331	192	58.0	2236	6.76	10	3.0	55	12	3.6	40	251	73.5
McNown, Cade	Chi	280	154	55.0	1646	5.88	8	2.9	68T	9	3.2	27	169	68.5
Batch, Charlie	Det	412	221	53.6	2489	6.04	13	3.2	59	15	3.6	41	242	67.3
Plummer, Jake	Ari	475	270	56.8	2946	6.20	13	2.7	70T	21	4.4	22	151	66.0
Aikman, Troy	Dal	262	156	59.5	1632	6.23	7	2.7	48	14	5.3	13	91	64.3
Matthews, Shane	Chi	178	102	57.3	964	5.42	3	1.7	41	6	3.4	5	24	64.0

RECORDS

Number: 114, Bob Parsons, Chicago (1981)

Average: 51.4 yards, Sammy Baugh, Washington (1940)

Longest: 94 yards, Joe Lintzenich, Chicago (1931)

40+ PUNTS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TB	BLK	OPP RET	RET YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Stryzinski, Dan	Atl	84	3447	60	41.0	5	1	29	126	27	37.9
Player, Scott	Ari	65	2871	55	44.2	5	0	37	347	17	37.3
Berger, Mitch	Min	62	2773	60	44.7	11	0	32	310	16	36.2
Landeta, Sean	Phi	86	3635	60	42.3	8	0	47	375	23	36.0
Knorr, Micah	Dal	58	2485	60	42.8	8	0	25	252	13	35.8
Royals, Mark	TB	85	3551	63	41.8	8	0	41	408	18	35.1
Aguiar, Louie	Chi	52	2017	56	38.8	4	0	21	121	8	34.9
Jett, John	Det	93	4044	59	43.5	12	2	53	498	33	34.8
Bidwell, Josh	GB	78	3003	53	38.5	5	0	27	205	22	34.6
Barnhardt, Tommy	Was	79	3160	53	40.0	5	0	33	342	23	34.4
Baker, John	StL	43	1736	59	40.4	5	1	17	132	13	34.2
Walter, Ken	Car	64	2459	66	38.4	2	2	25	187	19	33.8
Maynard, Brad	NYG	79	3210	64	40.6	8	1	28	353	26	33.7
Gowin, Toby	NO	74	3043	58	41.1	8	0	37	494	22	32.3
Batholomew, Brent	Chi	44	1607	52	36.5	3	0	15	130	12	32.2
Stanley, Chad	SF	69	2727	56	39.5	7	1	32	332	15	32.2

t = touchdown

TEAM SCORING

RECORDS

Points: 176, Paul Hornung, Green Bay (1960)

Field Goals: 37, John Kasay, Carolina (1996)

Extra Points: 64, Jeff Wilkins, St. Louis (1999)

KICKERS	TEAM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Longwell, Ryan	GB	32	32	33	38	131
Gramatica, Martin	TB	42	42	28	34	126
Nedney, Joe	Den-Car	24	24	34	38	126
Akers, David	Phi	34	36	29	33	121
Anderson, Gary	Min	45	45	22	23	111
Seder, Tim	Dal	27	27	25	33	108
Brien, Doug	NO	37	37	23	29	106
Hanson, Jason	Det	29	29	24	30	101
Andersen, Morten	Atl	23	23	25	31	98
Wilkins, Jeff	StL	38	38	17	17	89
Richey, Wade	SF	43	45	15	22	88
Daluiso, Brad	NYG	34	34	17	23	85
Edinger, Paul	Chi	21	21	21	27	84
Blanchard, Cary	Ari	18	19	16	23	66
Heppner, Kris	Sea-Was	17	17	10	15	47
Stoyanovich, P.	KC-StL	26	26	5	9	41

RECORDS

Touchdowns: 26, Marshall Faulk, St. Louis (2000)

NON-KICKERS	TEAM	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	2PT	PTS
Faulk, Marshall	StL	26	18	8	0	2	160
Moss, Randy	Min	15	0	15	0	1	92
Owens, Terrell	SF	13	0	13	0	1	80
Green, Ahman	GB	13	10	3	0	0	78
Stewart, James	Det	11	10	1	0	3	72
Davis, Stephen	Was	11	11	0	0	0	66
Garner, Charlie	SF	10	7	3	0	0	60
Smith, Robert	Min	10	7	3	0	0	60
Barber, Tiki	NYG	9	8	1	0	0	54
Bruce, Isaac	StL	9	0	9	0	0	54
Carter, Cris	Min	9	0	9	0	0	54
Dunn, Warrick	TB	9	8	1	0	0	54
Freeman, Antonio	GB	9	0	9	0	0	54
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	9	9	0	0	0	54
Williams, Ricky	NO	9	8	1	0	0	54
Hilliard, Ike	NYG	8	0	8	0	0	48
Horn, Joe	NO	8	0	8	0	0	48
Johnson, Keyshawn	TB	8	0	8	0	0	48
Toomer, Amani	NYG	8	1	7	0	0	48
Boston, David	Ari	7	0	7	0	0	42
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	7	7	0	0	0	42
Johnson, Charles	Phi	7	0	7	0	0	42
Rice, Jerry	SF	7	0	7	0	0	42
Anderson, Jamal	Atl	6	6	0	0	1	38
Beasley, Fred	SF	6	3	3	0	0	36
Holt, Torry	StL	6	0	6	0	0	36
Jackson, Willie	NO	6	0	6	0	0	36
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	6	6	0	0	0	36
Muhammad, Muhsin	Car	6	0	6	0	0	36
Pittman, Michael	Ari	6	4	2	0	0	36
Sanders, Frank	Ari	6	0	6	0	0	36
Harris, Jackie	Dal	5	0	5	0	1	32
King, Shaun	TB	5	5	0	0	1	32
Alstott, Mike	TB	5	5	0	0	0	30
Dayne, Ron	NYG	5	5	0	0	0	30
Fryar, Irving	Was	5	0	5	0	0	30
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	5	0	4	1	0	30
Mathis, Terance	Atl	5	0	5	0	0	30
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	5	2	1	2	0	30
Robinson, Marcus	Chi	5	0	5	0	0	30
Thomason, Jeff	Phi	5	0	5	0	0	30
Anthony, Reidel	TB	4	0	4	0	0	24
Autry, Darnell	Phi	4	3	1	0	0	24
Biakabutuka, Tim	Car	4	2	2	0	0	24
Dwight, Tim	Atl	4	0	3	1	0	24
Garcia, Jeff	SF	4	4	0	0	0	24

AFC STATS

Gannon, Rich	Oak	4	4	0	0	1	26
Dudley, Rickey	Oak	4	0	4	0	0	24
Fletcher, Terrell	SD	4	3	1	0	0	24
Graham, Jeff	SD	4	0	4	0	0	24
Moreau, Frank	KC	4	0	0	0	0	24
Shaw, Bobby	Pit	4	0	4	0	0	24
Shepherd, Leslie	Mia	4	0	4	0	0	24
Smith, Antowain	Buf	4	4	0	0	0	24
Ward, Hines	Pit	4	0	4	0	0	24
Wycheck, Frank	Ten	4	0	4	0	0	24
Brady, Kyle	Jac	3	0	3	0	1	20
Huntley, Richard	Pit	3	3	0	0	1	20
Pollard, Marcus	Ind	3	0	3	0	1	20
Allen, Eric	Oak	3	0	0	3	0	18
Bennett, Brandon	Cin	3	3	0	0	0	18
Bruener, Mark	Pit	3	0	3	0	0	18
Carwell, Dwayne	Den	3	0	3	0	0	18
Clark, Desmond	Den	3	0	3	0	0	18
Dilger, Ken	Ind	3	0	3	0	0	18
Lewis, Jermaine	Bal	3	0	1	2	0	18
Mili, Itula	Sea	3	0	3	0	0	18
Morris, Sylvester	KC	3	0	3	0	0	18
Pathon, Jerome	Ind	3	0	3	0	0	18
Price, Peerless	Buf	3	0	3	0	0	18
Redmond, J.R.	NE	3	1	2	0	0	18
Taylor, Travis	Bal	3	0	3	0	0	18
Ward, Dedric	NYJ	3	0	3	0	0	18
Whitted, Alvis	Jac	3	0	3	0	0	18
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	3	0	3	0	0	18
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	2	0	2	0	1	14
Alexander, Shaun	Sea	2	2	0	0	0	12
Anders, Kimble	KC	2	2	0	0	0	12
Anderson, Richie	NYJ	2	0	2	0	0	12
Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	Bal	2	1	1	0	0	12
Baxter, Fred	NYJ	2	0	2	0	0	12
Becht, Anthony	NYJ	2	0	2	0	0	12
Bjornson, Eric	NE	2	0	2	0	0	12
Bledsoe, Drew	NE	2	2	0	0	0	12
Brigham, Jeremy	Oak	2	0	2	0	0	12
Brunell, Mark	Jac	2	2	0	0	0	12
Carter, Tony	NE	2	2	0	0	0	12
Chancey, Robert	SD	2	2	0	0	0	12
Cloud, Mike	KC	2	1	0	1	0	12
Davis, Terrell	Den	2	2	0	0	0	12
Drayton, Troy	KC	2	0	2	0	0	12
Edwards, Marc	Cle	2	0	2	0	0	12
Fauria, Christian	Sea	2	0	2	0	0	12
Fazande, Jermaine	SD	2	2	0	0	0	12
Griffith, Howard	Den	2	0	2	0	0	12
Holmes, Priest	Bal	2	2	0	0	0	12
Jett, James	Oak	2	0	2	0	0	12
Johnson, Patrick	Bal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Lockett, Kevin	KC	2	0	2	0	0	12
McCrary, Fred	SD	2	0	2	0	0	12
McDaniel, Jeremy	Buf	2	0	2	0	0	12
Neal, Lorenzo	Ten	2	0	2	0	0	12
Parmalee, Bernie	NYJ	2	2	0	0	0	12
Shea, Aaron	Cle	2	0	2	0	0	12
Spencer, Jimmy	Den	2	0	0	2	0	12
Stokley, Brandon	Bal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Thigpen, Yancey	Ten	2	0	2	0	0	12
Wiggins, Jermaine	NYJ-NE	2	0	2	0	0	12
Coleman, Marcus	NYJ	1	0	1	0	1	8
Coles, Laveranues	NYJ	1	0	1	0	1	8
Porter, Joey	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	*8
Bailey, Karsten	Sea	1	0	1	0	0	6
Bellamy, Jay	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bennett, Donnell	KC	1	1	0	0	0	6
Blackwell, Will	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	6
Brown, Chad	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Buckley, Terrell	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bulluck, Keith	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Burris, Jeff	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
Campbell, Mark	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Chamberlain, Byron	Den	1	0	1	0	0	6
Chiaverini, Darrin	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Coleman, KaRon	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Crockett, Ray	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Dawson, JaJuan	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dixon, Gerald	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6

Dugans, Ron	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dumas, Mike	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Dunn, David	Oak	1	0	0	1	0	6
Dyson, Kevin	Ten	1	0	1	0	0	6
Edwards, Donnie	KC	1	0	0	1	0	6
Elliott, Jumbo	NYJ	1	0	1	0	0	6
Ellsworth, Percy	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Emanuel, Bert	Mia	1	0	1	0	0	6
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	1	1	0	0	0	6
Finn, Jim	Ind	1	0	1	0	0	6
Flutie, Doug	Buf	1	1	0	0	0	6
Ford, Henry	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Frerotte, Gus	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Fuamatu-Ma'afala, C.	Pit	1	1	0	0	0	6
Gash, Sam	Bal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Gaylor, Trevor	SD	1	0	1	0	0	6
Gildon, Jason	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	6
Godfrey, Randall	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Gold, Ian	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Goodwin, Hunter	Mia	1	0	1	0	0	6
Gordon, Darrien	Oak	1	0	0	1	0	6
Grbac, Elvis	KC	1	1	0	0	0	6
Green, E.G.	Ind	1	0	1	0	0	6
Green, Victor	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Griese, Brian	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Harrison, Rodney	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hawkins, Courtney	Pit	1	0	1	0	0	6
Heiden, Steve	SD	1	0	1	0	0	6
Holsey, Bernard	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
Howard, Chris	Jac	1	1	0	0	0	6
Jackson, Sheldon	Buf	1	0	1	0	0	6
Jenkins, Billy	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Jenkins, Ronney	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Johnson, Anthony	Jac	1	1	0	0	0	6
Johnson, J.J.	Mia	1	1	0	0	0	6
Johnson, Rob	Buf	1	1	0	0	0	6
Jones, Henry	Buf	1	0	0	1	0	6
Kaufman, Napoleon	Oak	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kinney, Erron	Ten	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kitna, Jon	Sea	1	1	0	0	0	6
Koonce, George	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Linton, Jonathan	Buf	1	0	1	0	0	6
Mack, Stacey	Jac	1	1	0	0	0	6
Madison, Sam	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Manning, Peyton	Ind	1	1	0	0	0	6
Mayes, Derrick	Sea	1	0	1	0	0	6
McAlister, Chris	Bal	1	0	0	1	0	6
McGee, Tony	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
McGriff, Travis	Den	1	0	1	0	0	6
Mitchell, Scott	Cin	1	1	0	0	0	6
Muhammad, Mustafah	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
Ogden, Jeff	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
O'Neal, Deltha	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Ostroski, Jerry	Buf	1	0	0	1	0	6
Patten, David	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Patton, Marcus	KC	1	0	0	1	0	6
Phenix, Perry	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Porter, Daryl	Buf	1	0	0	1	0	6
Poteat, Hank	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	6
Pryce, Trevor	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Rogers, Charlie	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Rolle, Samari	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Rutledge, Rod	NE	1	0	1	0	0	6
Simmons, Tony	NE	1	0	1	0	0	6
Sinclair, Michael	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Smith, Detron	Den	1	0	1	0	0	6
Soward, R.Jay	Jac	1	0	1	0	0	6
Stith, Shyrone	Jac	1	1	0	0	0	6
Strong, Mack	Sea	1	0	1	0	0	6
Suttle, Jason	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Taylor, Jason	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Thomas, Rodney	Ten	1	0	1	0	0	6
Thomas, Thurman	Mia	1	0	1	0	0	6
Thomas, William	Oak	1	0	0	1	0	6
Turner, Scott	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, Darryl	Cin	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, Kevin L.	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, Willie	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bratzke, Chad	Ind	0	0	0	0	0	2
Coates, Ben	Bal	0	0	0	0	1	2
Fontenot, Albert	SD	0	0	0	0	0	2
Haley, Jermaine	Mia	0	0	0	0	0	2
McCrary, Michael	Bal	0	0	0	0	0	2

RECORDS

Carries: 403, Eddie George, Tennessee (2000)

Yards: 2,008, Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)

Touchdowns: 21, Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)

RUSHING

95+ YARDS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
James, Edgerrin	Ind	387	1709	4.4	30	13
George, Eddie	Ten	403	1509	3.7	35t	14
Anderson, Mike	Den	297	1487	5.0	80t	15
Dillon, Corey	Cin	315	1435	4.6	80t	7
Taylor, Fred	Jac	292	1399	4.8	71	12
Lewis, Jamal	Bal	309	1364	4.4	45	6
Bettis, Jerome	Pit	355	1341	3.8	30	8
Watters, Ricky	Sea	278	1242	4.5	55	7
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	316	1204	3.8	55	9
Smith, Lamar	Mia	309	1139	3.7	68t	14
Wheatley, Tyrone	Oak	232	1046	4.5	80t	9
Richardson, Tony	KC	147	697	4.7	33	3
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	161	591	3.7	24	0
Holmes, Priest	Bal	137	588	4.3	21	2
Faulk, Kevin	NE	164	570	3.5	18	4
Gannon, Rich	Oak	89	529	5.9	23	4
Prentice, Travis	Cle	173	512	3.0	17	7
Kaufman, Napoleon	Oak	93	499	5.4	60	0
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	78	436	5.6	45t	7
Redmond, J.R.	NE	125	406	3.2	20	1
McNair, Steve	Ten	72	403	5.6	25	0
Fletcher, Terrell	SD	116	384	3.3	21	3
Fazande, Jermaine	SD	119	368	3.1	26	2
Smith, Antowain	Buf	101	354	3.5	59	4
Morris, Sammy	Buf	93	341	3.7	32t	5
Anders, Kimble	KC	76	331	4.4	69	2
Bennett, Brandon	Cin	90	324	3.6	37t	3
Alexander, Shaun	Sea	64	313	4.9	50	2
Johnson, Rob	Buf	42	307	7.3	23	1
Davis, Terrell	Den	78	282	3.6	24	2
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	54	267	4.9	30	1
Rhett, Errict	Cle	71	258	3.6	42	0
Brunell, Mark	Jac	48	236	4.9	16	2
Smith, Akili	Cin	41	232	5.7	21	0
Huntley, Richard	Pit	46	215	4.7	30t	3
Jordan, Randy	Oak	46	213	4.6	43t	3
Coleman, KaRon	Den	54	183	3.4	24t	1
Moreau, Frank	KC	67	179	2.7	22	4
Thomas, Rodney	Ten	61	175	2.9	20	0
Johnson, J.J.	Mia	50	168	3.4	16	1
Flutie, Doug	Buf	36	161	4.5	32	1
Bledsoe, Drew	NE	47	158	3.4	16	2
Fuamatu-Ma'afala, C.	Pit	21	149	7.1	23	1
Warrick, Peter	Cin	16	148	9.3	77t	2
Mack, Stacey	Jac	54	145	2.7	14	1
White, Jamel	Cle	47	145	3.1	14	0
Chancey, Robert	SD	42	141	3.4	14	2
Thomas, Thurman	Mia	28	136	4.9	25	0
Crockett, Zack	Oak	43	130	3.0	11	7
Kitna, Jon	Sea	48	127	2.6	13	1
Manning, Peyton	Ind	37	116	3.1	14	1
Johnson, Anthony	Jac	28	112	4.0	19	1
Linton, Jonathan	Buf	38	112	2.9	12	0
Grbac, Elvis	KC	30	110	3.7	22	1
Denson, Autry	Mia	31	108	3.5	12	0
Griese, Brian	Den	29	102	3.5	18	1
Smith, Rod	Den	6	99	16.5	50t	3

NFC STATS

Glover, Andrew	NO	4	0	4	0	0	24
Holcombe, Robert	StL	4	3	1	0	0	24
Proehl, Ricky	StL	4	0	4	0	0	24
Schroeder, Bill	GB	4	0	4	0	0	24
Watson, Justin	StL	4	4	0	0	0	24
Morton, Johnnie	Det	3	0	3	0	1	20
Small, Torrance	Phi	3	0	3	0	1	20
Stokes, J.J.	SF	3	0	3	0	1	20
Williams, Roland	StL	3	0	3	0	1	20
Allen, James	Chi	3	2	1	0	0	18
Campbell, Dan	NYG	3	0	3	0	0	18
Centers, Larry	Was	3	0	3	0	0	18
Connell, Albert	Was	3	0	3	0	0	18
Crowell, Germane	Det	3	0	3	0	0	18
Hayes, Donald	Car	3	0	3	0	0	18
Hetherington, Chris	Car	3	2	1	0	0	18
Horne, Tony	StL	3	0	2	1	0	18
Levens, Dorsey	GB	3	3	0	0	0	18
Lewis, Chad	Phi	3	0	3	0	0	18
McGarity, Wane	Dal	3	1	0	2	0	18
McNown, Cade	Chi	3	3	0	0	0	18
McWilliams, Johnny	Min	3	0	3	0	0	18
Moore, Dave	TB	3	0	3	0	0	18
Moore, Herman	Det	3	0	3	0	0	18
Vaughn, Darrick	Atl	3	0	0	3	0	18
Warren, Chris	Dal	3	2	1	0	0	18
Allen, Terry	NO	2	2	0	0	1	14
Davis, Tyrone	GB	2	0	2	0	1	14
Jackson, Terry	SF	2	1	1	0	1	14
Alexander, Stephen	Was	2	0	2	0	0	12
Barber, Ronde	TB	2	0	0	2	0	12
Batch, Charlie	Det	2	2	0	0	0	12
Bates, Mario	Det	2	2	0	0	0	12
Booker, Marty	Chi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Brooks, Aaron	NO	2	2	0	0	0	12
Byrd, Isaac	Car	2	0	2	0	0	12
Clark, Greg	SF	2	0	2	0	0	12
Floyd, William	Car	2	1	1	0	0	12
Hatchette, Matt	Min	2	0	2	0	0	12
Jefferson, Shawn	Atl	2	0	2	0	0	12
Jones, Thomas	Ari	2	2	0	0	0	12
Kelly, Reggie	Atl	2	0	2	0	0	12
Kennison, Eddie	Chi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Knight, Sammy	NO	2	0	0	2	0	12
Kozlowski, Brian	Atl	2	0	2	0	0	12
McKnight, James	Dal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Mitchell, Keith	NO	2	0	0	2	0	12
Sellers, Mike	Was	2	0	2	0	0	12
Sloan, David	Det	2	0	2	0	0	12
Thomas, Robert	Dal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Thrash, James	Was	2	0	2	0	0	12
Walls, Wesley	Car	2	0	2	0	0	12
Beuerlein, Steve	Car	1	1	0	0	1	8
Driver, Donald	GB	1	0	1	0	1	8
Ismael, Raghib	Dal	1	0	1	0	1	8
Abraham, Donnie	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Allred, John	Chi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Ambrose, Ashley	Atl	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bailey, Champ	Was	1	1	0	0	0	6
Bates, Michael	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Blake, Jeff	NO	1	1	0	0	0	6
Brooks, Derrick	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Brown, Mike	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Brown, Na	Phi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Bush, Devin	StL	1	0	0	1	0	6
Caldwell, Mike	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Campbell, Lamar	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Case, Stoney	Det	1	1	0	0	0	6
Collins, Kerry	NYG	1	1	0	0	0	6
Crawford, Casey	Car	1	0	1	0	0	6
Cunningham, Randall	Dal	1	1	0	0	0	6
Davis, John	Min	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dixon, Ron	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Duncan, Jamie	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Enis, Curtis	Chi	1	1	0	0	0	6
Evans, Doug	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Foster, Larry	Det	1	0	1	0	0	6
Franks, Bubba	GB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Galloway, Joey	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Green, Jacques	TB	1	0	1	0	0	6

Green, Trent	StL	1	1	0	0	0	6
Hall, Lamont	NO	1	0	1	0	0	6
Hardy, Terry	Ari	1	0	1	0	0	6
Harris, Walt	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hartings, Jeff	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Henderson, William	GB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Hicks, Skip	Was	1	1	0	0	0	6
Hitchcock, Jimmy	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hoover, Brad	Car	1	1	0	0	0	6
Howard, Desmond	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	1	0	0	1	0	6
Johnson, Brad	Was	1	1	0	0	0	6
Jurevicius, Joe	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kelly, Brian	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
LaFleur, David	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Lyle, Keith	StL	1	0	0	1	0	6
Mangum, Kris	Car	1	0	1	0	0	6
McDaniel, Randall	TB	1	0	1	0	0	6
McQuarters, R.W.	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Milne, Brian	NO	1	0	1	0	0	6
Minter, Mike	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Mitchell, Pete	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Montgomery, Monty	SF	1	0	0	1	0	6
Montgomery, Joe	NYG	1	1	0	0	0	6
Moore, Jerald	NO	1	1	0	0	0	6
Parrish, Tony	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Poole, Keith	NO	1	0	1	0	0	6
Pritchett, Stanley	Phi	1	1	0	0	0	6
Rasby, Walter	Det	1	0	1	0	0	6
Reed, Andre	Was	1	0	1	0	0	6
Rossum, Allen	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Sehorn, Jason	NYG	1	0	0	1	0	6
Smith, Darrin	NO	1	0	0	1	0	6
Staley, Duce	Phi	1	1	0	0	0	6
Trotter, Jeremiah	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Tucker, Jason	Dal	1	1	0	0	0	6
Uwaezuoke, Iheanyi	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Webster, Jason	SF	1	0	0	1	0	6
Westbrook, Bryant	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
White, Dez	Chi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Wiley, Michael	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Williams, Aeneas	Ari	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, Karl	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, U. Tyrone	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Fletcher, London	StL	0	0	0	0	1	2
Maryland, Russell	GB	0	0	0	0	0	2
Reese, Izell	Dal	0	0	0	0	0	2

RECORDS

Carries: 410, Jamal Anderson, Atlanta (1998)
Yards: 2,105, Eric Dickerson, L.A. Rams (1984)
Touchdowns: 25, Emmitt Smith, Dallas (1995)

RUSHING

25+ YARDS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith, Robert	Min	295	1521	5.2	72T	7
Faulk, Marshall	StL	253	1359	5.4	36	18
Davis, Stephen	Was	332	1318	4.0	50T	11
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	294	1203	4.1	52	9
Stewart, James	Det	339	1184	3.5	34	10
Green, Ahman	GB	263	1175	4.5	39T	10
Garner, Charlie	SF	258	1142	4.4	42	7
Dunn, Warrick	TB	248	1133	4.6	70T	8
Allen, James	Chi	290	1120	3.9	29	2
Anderson, Jamal	Atl	282	1024	3.6	42	6
Barber, Tiki	NYG	213	1006	4.7	78T	8
Williams, Ricky	NO	248	1000	4.0	26T	8
Dayne, Ron	NYG	228	770	3.4	50	5
Pittman, Michael	Ari	184	719	3.9	29	4
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	86	629	7.3	54	6
Biakabutuka, Tim	Car	173	627	3.6	43	2
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	89	470	5.3	27T	7
Alstott, Mike	TB	131	465	3.5	20T	5
Garcia, Jeff	SF	72	414	5.8	33	4
Johnes, Thomas	Ari	112	373	3.3	29	2
King, Shaun	TB	73	353	4.8	19	5
Staley, Duce	Phi	79	344	4.4	60	1
Autry, Darnell	Phi	112	334	3.0	15	3
McNown, Cade	Chi	50	326	6.5	30	3
Warren, Chris	Phi	74	296	4.0	11	2
Hoover, Brad	Car	89	290	-3.3	35	1
Watson, Justin	StL	54	249	4.6	49	4
Blake, Jeff	NO	57	243	4.3	20	1

Pritchett, Stanley	Phi	58	225	3.9	16	1
Levens, Dorsey	GB	77	224	2.9	17	3
Batch, Charlie	Det	44	199	4.5	19	2
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	25	187	7.5	85T	2
Plummer, Jake	Ari	37	183	4.9	24	0
Allen, Terry	NO	46	179	3.9	18	2
Brooks, Aaron	NO	41	170	4.1	29	2
Moore, Jerald	NO	37	156	4.2	40	1
Beasley, Fred	SF	50	147	2.9	9	3
Morton, Chad	NO	36	136	3.8	16	0
Smith, Terrelle	NO	29	131	4.5	16	0
Bates, Mario	Det	31	127	4.1	23	2
Case, Stoney	Det	16	117	7.3	27	1
Favre, Brett	GB	27	108	4.0	18	0
Beuerlein, Steve	Car	44	106	2.4	15	1
Centers, Larry	Was	20	103	5.2	14	0
Toomer, Amani	NYG	5	91	18.2	28	1
Cunningham, R.	Dal	23	89	3.9	19	1
Wiley, Michael	Dal	24	88	3.7	11	0
Parker, De'Mond	GB	18	85	4.7	24	0
Enis, Curtis	Chi	36	84	2.3	11T	1
Thrash, James	Was	10	82	8.2	34	0
Barnes, Marlon	Chi	15	81	5.4	20	0
Hicks, Skip	Was	29	78	2.7	12	1
Martin, Cecil	Phi	13	77	5.9	23	0
Ismael, Raghib	Dal	8	73	9.1	37	0
Kennison, Eddie	Chi	3	72	24.0	52	0
Smith, Paul	SF	18	72	4.0	14	0
Abdullah, Rabih	TB	16	70	4.4	19	0
Holcombe, Robert	StL	21	70	3.3	11	3
Green, Trent	StL	20	69	3.5	18T	1
Smith, Maurice	Atl	19	69	3.6	16	0
Williams, Moe	Min	23	67	2.9	10	0
Collins, Kerry	NYG	41	65	1.6	15	1
Hetherington, Chris	Car	23	65	2.8	14	2
Chandler, Chris	Atl	21	60	2.9	16	0
Johnson, Brad	Was	22	58	2.6	21	1
Thomas, Robert	Dal	15	51	3.4	9	0
Murrell, Adrian	Was	20	50	2.5	13	0
Irvin, Sedrick	Det	9	49	5.4	32	0
McGarity, Wane	Dal	6	49	8.2	22T	1
Comella, Greg	NYG	10	45	4.5	16	0
Kleinsasser, Jimmy	Min	12	43	3.6	7	0
Tucker, Jason	Dal	4	42	10.5	17T	1
McAfee, Fred	NO	2	37	18.5	40	0
Lewis, Jeff	Car	8	36	4.5	19	0
Wright, Anthony	Dal	12	36	3.0	19	0
Matthews, Shane	Chi	10	35	3.5	14	0
Floyd, William	Car	16	33	2.1	8	1
Foster, Larry	Det	2	31	15.5	16	0
Stecker, Aaron	TB	12	31	2.6	14	0
Hambrick, Troy	Dal	6	28	4.7	13	0
Rivers, Ron	Atl	8	27	3.4	10	0
Coakley, Dexter	Dal	1	26	26.0	26	0
Morton, Johnnie	Det	4	25	6.3	27	0

RECORDS

Receptions: 123, Herman Moore, Detroit (1995)
Yards:

AFC STATS

Brown, Tim	Oak	76	1128	14.8	45	11
Jones, Freddie	SD	71	766	10.8	44	5
Wycheck, Frank	Ten	70	636	9.1	26	4
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	70	508	7.3	31	2
Chrebet, Wayne	NYJ	69	937	13.6	50	8
Sharpe, Shannon	Bal	67	810	12.1	59T	5
Brady, Kyle	Jac	64	729	11.4	36	3
Mason, Derrick	Ten	63	895	14.2	34	5
Watters, Ricky	Sea	63	613	9.7	59	2
James, Edgerrin	Ind	63	594	9.4	60	5
Dawkins, Sean	Sea	63	731	11.6	40	5
Richards, Tony	KC	58	468	8.1	24	3
Johnson, Kevin	Cle	57	669	11.7	79	0
Gadsden, Oronde	Mia	56	786	14.0	61	6
Graham, Jeff	SD	55	907	16.5	83T	4
Wards, Dedric	NYJ	54	801	14.8	61	3
Conway, Curtis	SD	53	712	13.4	68T	5
Jackson, Darrell	Sea	53	713	13.5	71	6
Price, Peerless	Buf	52	762	14.7	42	3
Warrick, Peter	Cin	51	592	11.6	46	4
Faulk, Kevin	NE	51	465	9.1	52T	1
George, Eddie	Ten	50	453	9.1	24	2
Pathon, Jerome	Ind	50	646	12.9	38	3
Carswell, Dwayne	Den	49	495	10.1	43T	3
Ismail, Qadry	Bal	49	655	13.4	53T	5
Morris, Sylvester	KC	48	678	14.1	47	3
Fletcher, Terrell	SD	48	355	7.4	26	1
Ward, Hines	Pit	48	672	14.0	77T	4
Dilger, Ken	Ind	47	538	11.4	32	3
McDaniel, Jeremy	Buf	43	697	16.2	74T	2
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	43	569	13.2	43T	3
Rison, Andre	Oak	41	606	14.8	49	6
Shaw, Bobby	Pit	40	672	16.8	45T	4
Northcutt, Dennis	Cle	39	422	10.8	37	0
Pathon, Jerome	Cle	38	546	14.4	65	1
Prentice, Travis	Cle	37	191	5.2	13	1
Morris, Sammy	Buf	37	268	7.2	24	1
Taylor, Fred	Jac	36	240	6.7	19	2
Shepherd, Leslie	Mia	35	446	12.7	46T	4
Sanders, Chris	Ten	33	536	16.2	54	0
Lockett, Kevin	KC	33	422	12.8	34T	2
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	32	271	8.5	32	2
Holmes, Priest	Bal	32	221	6.9	27	0
Riemersma, Jay	Buf	31	372	12.0	35	5
Smith, Lamar	Mia	31	201	6.5	28	2
Pollard, Marcus	Ind	30	439	14.6	50T	3
Shea, Aaron	Cle	30	302	10.1	37	2
Dudley, Rickey	Oak	29	350	12.1	30	4
Mayes, Derrick	Sea	29	264	9.1	40	1
Mili, Itula	Sea	28	288	10.3	34	3
Taylor, Travis	Bal	28	276	9.9	40	3
Fauria, Christian	Sea	28	237	8.5	16	2
Clark, Desmond	Den	27	339	12.6	44	3
Jordan, Randy	Oak	27	299	11.1	55	1
Lewis, Jamal	Bal	27	296	11.0	45	0
Martin, Tony	Mia	26	393	15.1	44	0
McGee, Tony	Cin	26	309	11.9	39	1
Ritchie, Jon	Oak	26	173	6.7	17	0
Yeast, Craig	Cin	24	301	12.5	27	0
Anderson, Mike	Den	23	169	7.3	18	0
Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	Bal	23	168	7.3	26	1
Strong, Mack	Sea	23	141	6.1	24	1
Coles, Laveranues	NYJ	22	370	16.8	63	1
Chamberlain, Byron	Den	22	283	12.9	38	1
Burress, Plaxico	Pit	22	273	12.4	39	0
Jones, Reggie	SD	22	253	11.5	34	0
Jett, James	Oak	20	356	17.8	84T	2
Wheatley, Tyrone	Oak	20	156	7.8	17	1
Bjornson, Eric	NE	20	152	7.6	19	2
Redmond, J.R.	NE	20	126	6.3	20	2
Farmer, Danny	Cin	19	268	14.1	38	0
Hawkins, Courtney	Pit	19	238	12.5	33	1
Kinney, Erron	Ten	19	197	10.4	19	1
Bennett, Brandon	Cin	19	168	8.8	25	0
Lewis, Jermaine	Bal	19	161	8.5	26	1
Edwards, Troy	Pit	18	215	11.9	27	0
Wiggins, Jermaine	NYJ-NE	18	207	11.5	59	2
Green, E.G.	Ind	18	201	11.2	34T	1
Dillon, Corey	Cin	18	158	8.8	31	0
McCrary, Fred	SD	18	141	7.8	19	2

Bruener, Mark	Pit	17	192	11.3	30T	3
Becht, Anthony	NYJ	16	144	9.0	30	2
Edwards, Marc	Cle	16	128	8.0	21T	2
Thomas, Thurman	Mia	16	117	7.3	15	1
Fazande, Jermaine	SD	16	104	6.5	17	0
Griffith, Howard	Den	16	101	6.3	16	2
Thigpen, Yancey	Ten	15	289	19.3	56T	2
Rutledge, Rod	NE	15	103	6.9	16	1
Anders, Kimble	KC	15	76	5.1	12	0

RECORDS INTERCEPTIONS

Number: 13, Lester Hayes, Oakland (1980)
Return Yards: 349, Charlie McNeil, San Diego (1961)
Longest TD Return: 103 yards, Vencie Glenn, San Diego (1987); Louis Oliver, Miami (1992)
Touchdowns: 4, Ken Houston, Houston (1971); Jim Kearney, Kansas City (1972)

2+ INTERCEPTIONS	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Rolle, Samari	Ten	7	140	20.0	81	1
Walker, Brian	Mia	7	110	15.7	31	0
Buckley, Terrell	Den	6	110	18.3	33	1
Allen, Eric	Oak	6	145	24.2	50	3
Thomas, William	Oak	6	68	11.3	46	1
Harrison, Rodney	SD	6	97	16.2	63	1
Gree, Victor	NYA	6	144	24.0	43	1
Starks, Duane	Bal	6	125	20.8	64	0
Surtain, Patrick	Mia	5	55	11.0	43	0
Marion, Brock	Mia	5	72	14.4	24	0
Scott, Chad	Pit	5	49	9.8	33	0
Madison, Sam	Mia	5	80	16.0	34	0
Carpenter, Keion	Buf	5	63	12.6	22	0
Washington, Dewayne	Pit	5	59	11.8	31	0
Burris, Jeff	Ind	4	38	9.5	27	1
Woods, Charles	Oak	4	36	9.0	23	1
Crockett, Ray	Den	4	31	7.8	26	1
Bellamy, Jay	Sea	4	132	33.0	84	1
Jenkins, Billy	Den	4	61	15.3	36	1
Coleman, Marcus	NYA	4	6	1.5	7	0
Williams, Willie	Sea	4	74	18.5	69	1
McAlister, Chris	Bal	4	165	41.3	98	1
Woodson, Rod	Bal	4	20	5.0	18	0
Hasty, James	KC	4	53	13.3	38	0
Glenn, Aaron	NYA	4	34	8.5	34	0
Herring, Kim	Bal	3	74	24.7	30	0
Spencer, John	Den	3	102	34.0	79	2
Fuller, Corey	Cle	3	37	12.3	37	0
Wilson, Al	Den	3	21	7.0	20	0
Sidney, Dainon	Ten	3	19	6.3	19	0
Alexander, Brent	Pit	3	31	10.3	15	0
Brown, Eric	Den	3	9	3.0	9	0
James, Tory	Oak	2	25	12.5	25	0
Pope, Marquez	Oak	2	25	12.5	25	0
Cowart, Sam	Buf	2	4	2.0	2	0
Darius, Donovan	Jac	2	26	13.0	21	0
Logan, Mike	Jac	2	14	7.0	14	0
Jones, Tebucky	NE	2	20	10.0	20	0
Milloy, Lawyer	NE	2	2	1.0	2	0
Woods, Jerome	KC	2	0	0.0	0	0
Edwards, Donnie	KC	2	45	22.5	42	1
Wesley, Greg	KC	2	28	14.0	28	0
Stewart, Rayna	Jac	2	37	18.5	24	0
Irvin, Ken	Buf	2	1	0.5	1	0
Macklin, David	Ind	2	35	17.5	35	0
Peterson, Mike	Ind	2	8	4.0	5	0
Simmons, Anthony	Sea	2	15	7.5	8	0
Walker, Denard	Ten	2	4	2.0	4	0
Springs, Shawn	Sea	2	8	4.0	8	0
Carter, Tom	Cin	2	40	20.0	30	0
Patton, Marcus	KC	2	39	19.5	24T	1
Stewart, Rayna	Jac	2	37	18.5	24	0
Macklin, David	Ind	2	35	17.5	35	0
Law, Ty	NE	2	32	16.0	32	0
Wesley, Greg	KC	2	28	14.0	28	0
Darius, Donovan	Jac	2	26	13.0	21	0
Godfrey, Randall	Ten	2	25	12.5	24T	1
James, Tory	Oak	2	25	12.5	25	0
Pope, Marquez	Oak	2	25	12.5	25	0
Jones, Tebucky	NE	2	20	10.0	20	0
Simmons, Anthony	Sea	2	15	7.5	8	0
Logan, Mike	Jac	2	14	7.0	14	0
Spikes, Takeo	Cin	2	12	6.0	7	0

Peterson, Mike	Ind	2	8	4.0	5	0
Springs, Shawn	Sea	2	8	4.0	8	0
Cowart, Sam	Buf	2	4	2.0	2	0
Walker, Denard	Ten	2	4	2.0	4	0
Cota, Chad	Ind	2	3	1.5	3	0
Milloy, Lawyer	NE	2	2	1.0	2	0
Seau, Junior	SD	2	2	1.0	2	0
Irvin, Ken	Buf	2	1	0.5	1	0
Lewis, Ray	Bal	2	1	0.5	1	0
Romanowski, Bill	Den	2	0	0.0	3	0
Woods, Jerome	KC	2	0	0.0	0	0

RECORDS KICK RETURNS

Number: 62, Andre Coleman, San Diego (1995); Brock Marion, Miami (1999)
Yards: 1,524, Brock Marion, Miami (1999)
Longest TD: 106 yards, Noland Smith, Kansas City (1967)
Touchdowns: 3, Raymond Clayborn, New England (1977)

20+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mason, Derrick	Ten	42	1132	27.0	66	0
Williams, Kevin	NYJ-Mia	24	615	25.6	97T	1
Denson, Autry	Mia	20	495	24.8	56	0
Rogers, Charlie	Sea	66	1629	24.7	81T	1
Dunn, David	Oak	44	1073	24.4	88T	1
O'Neal, Deltha	Den	46	1102	24.0	87T	1
Stith, Shyrone	Jac	33	785	23.8	47	0
Marion, Brock	Mia	22	513	23.3	47	0
Harris, Corey	Bal	39	907	23.3	41	0
Jenkins, Ronney	SD	67	1531	22.9	93T	1

RECORDS PUNT RETURNS

Number: 62, Fulton Walker, Miami-L.A. Raiders (1985)
Yards: 692, Fulton Walker, Miami-L.A. Raiders (1985)
Longest: 98 yards, Terance Mathis, N.Y. Jets (1990)
Touchdowns: 4, Rick Upchurch, Denver (1976)

14+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	FC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ogden, Jeff	Mia	19	11	323	17.0	81	1
Lewis, Jermaine	Bal	36	9	578	16.1	89	2
Rogers, Charlie	Sea	26	12	363	14.0	43T	0
Mason, Derrick	Ten	51	17	662	13.0	69	1
Poteat, Hank	Pit	36	7	467	13.0	54	1
Brown, Troy	NE	39	19	504	12.9	66	1
Shepherd, Leslie	Mia	15	7	164	10.9	32	0
Northcutt, Dennis	Cle	27	12	289	10.7	30	0
O'Neal, Deltha	Den	34	11	354	10.4	64T	0
Gordon, Darrien	Oak	29	10	258	8.9	36	0
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	29	13	240	8.3	36	0
Lockett, Kevin	KC	26	6	208	8.0	26	0
Ward, Dedric	NYJ	27	19	214	7.9	19	0
Soward, R. Jay	Jac	14	5	108	7.7	18	0
Barlow, Reggie	Jac	29	14	200	6.9	21	0
Yeast, Craig	Cin	34	14	225	6.6	27	0
Watson, Chris	Buf	33	18	163	4.9	20	0

RECORDS SACKS

Number: 22, Mark Gastineau, N.Y. Jets (1984)

5.5+ SACKS	TEAM	NO	TEAM	NO
Armstrong, Trace	Mia	16.5	Tanuvasa, Maa	Den 7.0
Taylor, Jason	Mia	14.5	Pittman, Kavika	Den 7.0
Hicks, Eric	KC	14.0	Boulware, Peter	Bal 7.0
Gildon, Jason	Pit	13.5	Parrella, John	SD 7.0
Pryce, Trevor	Den	12.0	McCrary, Michael	Bal 6.5
Kearse, Jevon	Ten	11.5	Mickell, Darren	SD 6.0
Burnett, Rob	Bal	10.5	Upshaw, Regan	Oak 6.0
Wiley, Marcellus	Buf	10.5	Browning, John	KC 6.0
Porter, Joey	Pit	10.5	Spires, Greg	NE 6.0
Lewis, Mo	NYJ	10.0	McGinest, Willie	NE 6.0
Ellis, Shaun	NYJ	8.5	Coleman, R.	Oak 6.0
McKenzie, Keith	Cle	8.0	Harris, Rodney	SD 6.0
Newman, Keith	Buf	8.0	Cox, Bryan	NYJ 6.0
Holmes, Kenny	Ten	8.0	Brown, Chad	Sea 6.0
Jackson, Grady	Oak	8.0	Smeenge, Joel	Jac 6.0
Brackens, Tony	Jac	7.5	King, Lamar	Sea 6.0
Bratzke, Chad	Ind	7.5	Bryant, Tony	Oak 5.5
Clemons, Duane	KC	7.5	Cowart, Sam	Buf 5.5
Williams, Dan	KC	7.5	Favors, Gregory	Ten 5.5

NFC STATS

Freeman, Antonio	GB	62	912	14.7	67T	9
Morton, Johnnie	Det	61	788	12.9	42T	3
Jefferson, Shawn	Atl	60	822	13.7	49	2
Mathis, Terance	Atl	57	679	11.9	44T	5
Johnson, Charles	Phi	56	642	11.5	59	7
Hilliard, Ike	NYG	55	787	14.3	59	8
Robinson, Marcus	Chi	55	738	13.4	68T	5
Kennison, Eddie	Chi	55	549	10.0	26	2
Sanders, Frank	Ari	54	749	13.9	53T	6
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	53	734	13.8	80T	4
McKnight, James	Dal	52	926	17.8	48	2
Green, Jacques	TB	51	773	15.2	75	1
Thrash, James	Was	50	653	13.1	50	2
Booker, Marty	Chi	47	490	10.4	41	2
Alexander, Stephen	Was	47	510	10.9	30	2
Williams, Ricky	NO	44	409	9.3	24	1
Dunn, Warrick	TB	44	422	9.6	45	1
Christian, Bob	Atl	44	315	7.2	19	0
Anderson, Jamal	Atl	42	382	9.1	55	0
Fryar, Irving	Was	41	548	13.4	34T	5
Small, Torrance	Phi	40	569	14.2	70T	3
Moore, Herman	Det	40	434	10.9	30T	3
Harris, Jackie	Dal	39	306	7.8	21	5
Connell, Albert	Was	39	762	19.5	77T	3
Allen, James	Chi	39	291	7.5	26	1
Clark, Greg	SF	38	342	9.0	34	2
Jackson, Willie	NO	37	523	14.1	53T	6
Smith, Robert	Min	36	348	9.7	53T	3
Comella, Greg	NYG	36	274	7.6	25	0
Henderson, William	GB	35	234	6.7	25	1
Crowell, Germane	Det	34	430	12.6	50T	3
Franks, Bubba	GB	34	363	10.7	27T	1
Biakabutuka, Tim	Car	34	341	10.0	25	2
Davis, Stephen	Was	33	313	9.5	39	0
Sloan, David	Det	32	379	11.8	59	2
Warren, Chris	Dal-Phi	32	303	9.5	76T	1
Stewart, James	Det	32	287	9.0	32	1
Jones, Thomas	Ari	32	208	6.5	20	0
Proehl, Ricky	StL	31	441	14.2	29	4
Walls, Wesley	Car	31	422	13.6	54	2
Kelly, Reggie	Atl	31	340	11.0	37T	2
Beasley, Fred	SF	31	233	7.5	34	3
Martin, Cecil	Phi	31	219	7.1	26	0
Stokes, J.J.	SF	30	524	17.5	53	3
Morton, Chad	NO	30	213	7.1	35	0
Moore, Dave	TB	29	288	9.9	28	3
Hardy, Terry	Ari	27	160	5.9	13	1
Dwight, Tim	Atl	26	406	15.6	52T	3
Brooks, Macey	Chi	26	216	8.3	27	0
Ismail, Raghib	Dal	25	350	14.0	44	1
McGarity, Wane	Dal	25	250	10.0	25	0
Mitchell, Pete	NYG	25	245	9.8	22	1
Staley, Duce	Phi	25	201	8.0	26	0
Pritchett, Stanley	Phi	25	193	7.7	17	0
Autry, Darnell	Phi	24	275	11.5	37	1
Jurevicius, Joe	NYG	24	272	11.3	43	1
Sinceno, Kaseem	Chi	23	206	9.0	28	0
Thomas, Robert	Dal	23	117	5.1	14	2
Byrd, Isaac	Car	22	241	11.0	34T	2
McWilliams, Johnny	Min	22	180	8.2	26	3
Driver, Donald	GB	21	322	15.3	49	1
Poole, Keith	NO	21	293	14.0	49T	1
Glover, Andrew	NO	21	281	13.4	39	4
Streets, Tai	SF	19	287	15.1	39	0
Mangum, Kris	Car	19	215	11.3	31	1
Davis, Tyrone	GB	19	177	9.3	41	2
Walsh, Chris	Min	18	191	10.6	21	0
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	17	219	12.9	34	0
Cody, Mac	Ari	17	212	12.5	24	0
Davis, John	Min	17	202	11.9	37	1
Foster, Larry	Det	17	175	10.3	40T	1
Flayder, William	Car	17	114	6.7	15	1
Reed, Jake	NO	16	206	12.9	22	0
Hatchette, Matt	Min	16	190	11.9	39T	2
Levens, Dorsey	GB	16	146	9.1	37	0
Engram, Bobby	Chi	16	109	6.8	25	0
Murrell, Adrian	Was	16	93	5.8	12	0
Anthony, Reidel	TB	15	232	15.5	46T	4
Kozlowski, Brian	Atl	15	151	10.1	30	2
Hoover, Brad	Car	15	112	7.5	16	0

Bates, Mario	Det	15	109	7.3	17	0
Hetherington, Chris	Car	14	116	8.3	19	1
Wiley, Michael	Dal	14	72	5.1	15T	1
Tucker, Jason	Dal	13	126	9.7	18	0
Alstott, Mike	TB	13	93	7.2	21	0
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	13	89	6.8	21	1
LaFleur, David	Dal	12	109	9.1	19	1
Broughton, Luther	Phi	12	104	8.7	21	0
Schlesinger, Cory	Det	12	73	6.1	13	0
Smith, Terrelle	NO	12	65	5.4	10	0
Wilson, Robert	NO	11	154	14.0	30	0
Williams, Roland	StL	11	102	9.3	31T	3
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	11	79	7.2	19	0
Pinkston, Todd	Phi	10	181	18.1	45	0
Lee, Charles	GB	10	134	13.4	38	0
Reed, Andre	Was	10	103	10.3	21T	1
Kleinsasser, Jimmy	Min	10	98	9.8	21	0
White, Dez	Chi	10	87	8.7	25T	1
Rasby, Walter	Det	10	78	7.8	17	1
Gedney, Chris	Ari	10	75	7.5	24	0
Watson, Justin	StL	10	56	5.6	15	0
Thomason, Jeff	Phi	10	46	4.6	11	5

RECORDS INTERCEPTIONS

Number: 14, Dick Lane, Los Angeles (1952)
Return Yards: 303, Deion Sanders, San Francisco (1994)
Longest TD Return: 102 yards, Bob Smith, Detroit (1949);
 Erich Barnes, N.Y. Giants (1961)
Touchdowns: 4, Eric Allen, Philadelphia (1993)

2+ INTERCEPTIONS	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ahrper, Darren	GB	9	109	12.1	47	0
McClellan, Dexter	StL	8	28	3.5	23	0
Abraham, Donnie	TB	7	82	11.7	23	0
Shulz, Kurt	Det	7	53	7.6	19	0
Robinson, Damien	TB	6	1	0.2	1	0
Buchanan, Ray	Atl	6	114	19.0	60	0
Westbrook, Bryan	Det	6	126	21.0	101	1
McDaniel, Emmanuel	NYG	6	30	5.0	17	0
Bailey, Champ	Was	5	48	9.6	48	0
Williams, Aeneas	Ari	5	102	20.4	48	0
Sparks, Phillip	Dal	5	59	11.8	43	0
Vincent, Troy	Phi	5	34	6.8	17	0
Knight, Sammy	NO	5	68	13.6	37	2
Davis, Eric	Car	5	14	2.8	8	0
Dawkins, Brian	Phi	4	62	15.5	32	0
Fletcher, London	StL	4	33	8.3	12	0
Williams, Tyrone	GB	4	105	26.3	46	1
Sanders, Deion	Was	4	91	22.8	32	0
Duncan, Jamie	TB	4	55	13.8	31	1
Ambrose, Ashley	Atl	4	139	34.8	42	1
Perry, Darren	NO	3	3	1.0	3	0
Williams, Shaun	NYG	3	52	17.3	40	0
Molden, Alex	NO	3	24	8.0	24	0
Bradford, Ronnie	Atl	3	25	8.3	13	0
Bronson, Zack	SF	3	75	25.0	43	0
Stephens, Reggie	NYG	3	4	1.3	4	0
Taylor, Bobbie	Phi	3	64	21.3	38	0
Lynch, John	TB	3	43	14.3	36	0
Montgomery, D.	SF	3	68	22.7	46	1
Hitchcock, Jimmy	Car	3	116	38.7	88	1
Bly, Dre'	StL	3	44	14.7	22	0
Parrish, Tony	Chi	3	81	27.0	38	1
Green, Darrell	Was	3	35	11.7	33	0
Tate, Robert	Min	2	12	6.0	12	0
Wortham, Barron	Dal	2	1	0.5	1	0
Sehorn, Jason	NYG	2	32	16.0	32	0
Urlacher, Brian	Chi	2	19	9.5	19	0
Peterson, Julian	SF	2	33	16.5	31	0
McNeil, Ryan	Dal	2	4	2.0	4	0
Evans, Doug	Car	2	17	8.5	17	0
Smith, Darrin	NO	2	56	28.0	41	1
Webster, Jason	SF	2	78	39.0	70	1
Brown, Corwin	Det	2	12	6.0	12	0
Edwards, Antuan	GB	2	4	2.0	4	0
Nguyen, Dat	Dal	2	31	15.5	24	0
Harris, Walt	Chi	2	35	17.5	35	1
Emmons, Carlos	Phi	2	8	4.0	8	0
Moore, Damon	Phi	2	24	12.0	20	0
Reese, Izell	Dal	2	60	30.0	46	0
Phillips, Ryan	NYG	2	22	11.0	12	0

Lyght, Todd	StL	2	21	10.5	21	0
Urlacher, Brian	Chi	2	19	9.5	19	0
Evans, Doug	Car	2	17	8.5	17	0
Shade, Sam	Was	2	15	7.5	15	0
Brown, Corwin	Det	2	12	6.0	12	0
Tate, Robert	Min	2	12	6.0	12	0
Woodson, Darren	Dal	2	12	6.0	12	0
Emmons, Carlos	Phi	2	8	4.0	8	0
Edwards, Antuan	GB	2	4	2.0	4	0
McNeil, Ryan	Dal	2	4	2.0	4	0
Wortham, Barron	Dal	2	1	0.5	1	0
Fair, Terry	Det	2	0	0.0	0	0

RECORDS KICK RETURNS

Number: 70, Tyrone Hughes, New Orleans (1996)
Yards: 1,791, Tyrone Hughes, New Orleans (1996)
Longest TD: 106 yards, Al Carmichael, Green Bay (1956);
 Roy Green, St. Louis (1979)
Touchdowns: 4, Travis Williams, Green Bay (1967);
 Cecil Turner, Chicago (1970)

25+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Vaughn, Darrick	Atl	39	1082	27.7	100T	3
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	82	2186	26.7	98T	1
Rossum, Allen	GB	50	1288	25.8	92T	1
Howard, Desmond	Det	57	1401	24.6	70	0
Horne, Tony	StL	57	1379	24.2	103T	1
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	47	1124	23.9	89T	1
Morton, Chad	NO	44	1029	23.4	68	0
Milburn, Glynn	Chi	63	1468	23.3	38	0
Walters, Troy	Min	30	692	23.1	38	0
Stecker, Aaron	TB	29	663	22.9	48	0

RECORDS PUNT RETURNS

Number: 70, Danny Reece, Tampa Bay (1979)
Yards: 875, Desmond Howard, Green Bay (1996)
Longest: 103 yards, Robert Bailey, L.A. Rams (1994)
Touchdowns: 4, Jack Christiansen, Detroit (1951)

25+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	FC YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD	
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	32	17	489	15.3	86	1
Howard, Desmond	Det	31	24	457	14.7	95	1
McGarity, Wayne	Dal	30	9	353	11.8	64	2
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	32	33	335	10.5	72T	1
Dwight, Tim	Atl	33	17	309	9.4	70	1
Morton, Carl	NO	30	14	278	9.3	51	0
Williams, Karl	TB	31	18	286	9.2	73	1
Barber, Tiki	NYG	39	20	336	8.6	31	0
Milburn, Glyn	Chi	35	26	300	8.6	25	0
Rossum, Allen	GB	29	24	248	8.6	43T	0
Williams, Kevin	SF	26	13	220	8.5	25	0
Sanders, Deion	Was	25	6	185	7.4	57	0
Cody, Mac	Ari	31	11	222	7.2	25	0
Jacquet, Nate	Min	30	8	211	7.0	35	0

RECORDS SACKS

Number: 21, Reggie White, Philadelphia (1987);
 Chris Doleman, Minnesota (1989)

5.0+ SACKS	TEAM	NO	TEAM	NO
Glover, La'Roi	NO	17.0	Buckner, Brentson	SF 7.0
Sapp, Warren	TB	16.5	McFarland, A.	TB 6.5
Douglas, Hugh	Phi	15.0	Scroggins, Tracy	Det 6.5
Jones, Marcus	TB	13.0	Thierry, John	GB 6.5
Johnson, Joe	NO	12.0	Mitchell, Kieth	NO 6.5
Coleman, Marco	Was	12.0	Ekuban, E.	Dal 6.5
Howard, Darren	NO	11.0	Williams, Jay	Car 6.0
Wistrom, Grant	StL	11.0	Dotson, Santana	GB 6.0
Carter, Kevin	StL	10.5	Daniels, Phillip	Chi 6.0
Smith, Bruce	Was	10.0	Sawyer, Talence	Min 6.0
Hamilton, Keith	NYG	10.0	Mamula, Mike	Phi 5.5
Strahan, M.	NYG	9.5	White, Reggie	Car 5.5
Simon, Corey	Phi	9.5	Barber, Ronde	TB 5.5
Young, Bryant	SF	9.5	Whitehead, W.	NO 5.5
Randle, John	Min	8.0	Fletcher, London	StL 5.5
Urlacher, Brian	Chi	8.0	Hunt, Cletidius	GB 5.0
Porcher, Robert	Det	8.0	Griffin, Cornelius	NYG 5.0
Rice, Simeon	Ari	7.5	Holliday, Vonnie	GB 5.0

2001 NFL WEEKLY SCHEDULE

All times Eastern / Preseason game times subject to change

TELEVISED PRESEASON GAMES



Complete NFL preseason schedule was unavailable at press time.

Monday, August 6		
Pro Football Hall of Fame Game	8:00	ABC
Miami vs. St. Louis (Canton, OH)	8:00	ESPN
Saturday, August 11		
Minnesota vs. New Orleans	8:00	ESPN
Monday, August 13		
Miami at Tampa Bay	8:00	ESPN
Thursday, August 16		
Jacksonville at N.Y. Giants	8:00	ESPN
Friday, August 17		
Tennessee at St. Louis	8:00	FOX

Saturday, August 18		
Baltimore at N.Y. Jets	8:00	CBS
Monday, August 20		
Denver at Green Bay	8:00	ABC
Thursday, August 23		
Philadelphia at Tennessee	8:00	CBS
Friday, August 24		
Indianapolis at Minnesota	8:00	FOX
Monday, August 27		
American Bowl-Mexico City		
Dallas vs. Oakland	8:00	ABC
Friday, August 31		
Kansas City at St. Louis	8:00	ESPN



REGULAR SEASON GAMES

WEEK 1

(Open date: Arizona)

Sunday, September 9	
Atlanta at San Francisco	4:15
Carolina at Minnesota	1:00
Chicago at Baltimore	1:00
Detroit at Green Bay	1:00
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets	1:00
New England at Cincinnati	1:00
New Orleans at Buffalo	1:00
Oakland at Kansas City	1:00
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville	1:00
St. Louis at Philadelphia	4:15
Seattle at Cleveland	1:00
Tampa Bay at Dallas	1:00
Washington at San Diego	4:15
Miami at Tennessee	8:30
Monday, September 10	
N.Y. Giants at Denver	9:00

WEEK 2

(Open date: San Diego)

Sunday, September 16	
Arizona at Washington	1:00
Atlanta at St. Louis	4:05
Buffalo at Miami	1:00
Cincinnati at Tennessee	1:00
Dallas at Detroit	1:00
Denver at Indianapolis	1:00
Green Bay at N.Y. Giants	1:00
Jacksonville at Chicago	4:15
Kansas City at Seattle	4:15
New England at Carolina	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Oakland	4:15
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay	1:00
San Francisco at New Orleans	1:00
Cleveland at Pittsburgh	8:30
Monday, September 17	
Minnesota at Baltimore	9:00

WEEK 3

(Open dates: New Orleans, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay)

Sunday, September 23	
Baltimore at Cincinnati	1:00
Buffalo at Indianapolis	1:00
Carolina at Atlanta	1:00
Detroit at Cleveland	1:00
Minnesota at Chicago	1:00
N.Y. Giants at Kansas City	1:00
N.Y. Jets at New England	4:05
Oakland at Miami	1:00
Philadelphia at Seattle	4:15
St. Louis at San Francisco	4:15
San Diego at Dallas	1:00
Tennessee at Jacksonville	1:00
Denver at Arizona	8:30
Monday, September 24	
Washington at Green Bay	8:00

WEEK 4

(Open dates: Chicago, Detroit, Tennessee)

Sunday, September 30	
Atlanta at Arizona	4:05
Baltimore at Denver	4:15
Cincinnati at San Diego	4:15
Cleveland at Jacksonville	4:15
Green Bay at Carolina	1:00
Indianapolis at New England	1:00
Kansas City at Washington	1:00
Miami at St. Louis	1:00
New Orleans at N.Y. Giants	1:00
Pittsburgh at Buffalo	4:15
Seattle at Oakland	4:15
Tampa Bay at Minnesota	1:00
Dallas at Philadelphia	8:30
Monday, October 1	
San Francisco at N.Y. Jets	9:00

WEEK 5

(Open dates: Dallas, Indianapolis, Oakland)

Sunday, October 7	
Arizona at Philadelphia	1:00
Chicago at Atlanta	1:00
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	1:00
Green Bay at Tampa Bay	4:15
Jacksonville at Seattle	4:05
Kansas City at Denver	4:05
Minnesota at New Orleans	1:00
New England at Miami	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo	4:05
San Diego at Cleveland	1:00
Tennessee at Baltimore	1:00
Washington at N.Y. Giants	1:00
Carolina at San Francisco	8:30
Monday, October 8	
St. Louis at Detroit	9:00

WEEK 6

(Open dates: Buffalo, Jacksonville, Philadelphia)

Sunday, October 14	
Arizona at Chicago	1:00
Baltimore at Green Bay	1:00
Cleveland at Cincinnati	1:00
Denver at Seattle	4:15
Detroit at Minnesota	1:00
Miami at N.Y. Jets	4:15
New Orleans at Carolina	1:00
N.Y. Giants at St. Louis	1:00
Pittsburgh at Kansas City	1:00
San Diego at New England	1:00
San Francisco at Atlanta	1:00
Tampa Bay at Tennessee	1:00
Oakland at Indianapolis	8:30
Monday, October 15	
Washington at Dallas	9:00

WEEK 7

(Open dates: Miami, San Francisco, Seattle)

Thursday, October 18	
Buffalo at Jacksonville	8:30
Sunday, October 21	
Atlanta at New Orleans	1:00
Baltimore at Cleveland	1:00
Carolina at Washington	1:00
Chicago at Cincinnati	1:00
Dallas at Oakland	4:15
Denver at San Diego	4:05
Green Bay at Minnesota	4:15
Kansas City at Arizona	4:05
New England at Indianapolis	1:00
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay	1:00
St. Louis at N.Y. Jets	1:00
Tennessee at Detroit	1:00
Monday, October 22	
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants	9:00

WEEK 8

(Open dates: Atlanta, Cleveland, Green Bay)

Sunday, October 28	
Arizona at Dallas	4:05
Buffalo at San Diego	4:15
Cincinnati at Detroit	1:00
Indianapolis at Kansas City	1:00
Jacksonville at Baltimore	1:00
Miami at Seattle	4:15
Minnesota at Tampa Bay	1:00
New England at Denver	4:15
New Orleans at St. Louis	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Carolina	1:00
Oakland at Philadelphia	4:15
San Francisco at Chicago	1:00
N.Y. Giants at Washington	8:30
Monday, October 29	
Tennessee at Pittsburgh	9:00

WEEK 9

(Open dates: Cincinnati, Minnesota, St. Louis)

Sunday, November 4	
Baltimore at Pittsburgh	1:00
Carolina at Miami	1:00
Cleveland at Chicago	1:00
Dallas at N.Y. Giants	1:00
Detroit at San Francisco	4:05
Indianapolis at Buffalo	4:15
Jacksonville at Tennessee	1:00
Kansas City at San Diego	4:15
New England at Atlanta	1:00
Philadelphia at Arizona	4:05
Seattle at Washington	4:15
Tampa Bay at Green Bay	1:00
N.Y. Jets at New Orleans	8:30
Monday, November 5	
Denver at Oakland	9:00

WEEK 10

(Open date: Washington)

Sunday, November 11	
Buffalo at New England	1:00
Carolina at St. Louis	1:00
Cincinnati at Jacksonville	1:00
Dallas at Atlanta	1:00
Green Bay at Chicago	1:00
Kansas City at N.Y. Jets	1:00
Miami at Indianapolis	1:00
Minnesota at Philadelphia	4:15
New Orleans at San Francisco	4:15
N.Y. Giants at Arizona	4:15
Pittsburgh at Cleveland	1:00
San Diego at Denver	4:05
Tampa Bay at Detroit	1:00
Oakland at Seattle	8:30
Monday, November 12	
Baltimore at Tennessee	9:00

WEEK 11

(Open date: Kansas City)

Sunday, November 18	
Atlanta at Green Bay	1:00
Chicago at Tampa Bay	1:00
Cleveland at Baltimore	1:00
Detroit at Arizona	4:15
Indianapolis at New Orleans	1:00
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh	4:05
N.Y. Jets at Miami	1:00
Philadelphia at Dallas	1:00
San Diego at Oakland	4:05
San Francisco at Carolina	1:00
Seattle at Buffalo	1:00
Tennessee at Cincinnati	1:00
Washington at Denver	4:15
St. Louis at New England	8:30
Monday, November 19	
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota	9:00

WEEK 12

(Open date: New York Jets)

Thursday, November 22	
Green Bay at Detroit	12:30
Denver at Dallas	4:05
Sunday, November 25	
Arizona at San Diego	4:05
Atlanta at Carolina	1:00
Baltimore at Jacksonville	1:00
Cincinnati at Cleveland	1:00
Miami at Buffalo	1:00
New Orleans at New England	4:05
Oakland at N.Y. Giants	4:15
Pittsburgh at Tennessee	1:00
San Francisco at Indianapolis	1:00
Seattle at Kansas City	1:00
Washington at Philadelphia	1:00
Chicago at Minnesota	8:30
Monday, November 26	
Tampa Bay at St. Louis	9:00

WEEK 13

(Open date: New York Giants)

Thursday, November 23	
Philadelphia at Kansas City	8:30
Sunday, November 26	
Arizona at Oakland	4:15
Carolina at New Orleans	1:00
Dallas at Washington	4:15
Denver at Miami	1:00
Detroit at Chicago	1:00
Indianapolis at Baltimore	1:00
Minnesota at Pittsburgh	1:00
New England at N.Y. Jets	1:00
St. Louis at Atlanta	1:00
San Diego at Seattle	4:05
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati	1:00
Tennessee at Cleveland	1:00
Buffalo at San Francisco	8:30
Monday, November 27	
Green Bay at Jacksonville	9:00

WEEK 14

(Open date: Baltimore)

Sunday, December 9	
Carolina at Buffalo	1:00
Chicago at Green Bay	1:00
Cleveland at New England	1:00
Detroit at Tampa Bay	1:00
Jacksonville at Cincinnati	1:00
Kansas City at Oakland	4:15
New Orleans at Atlanta	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Dallas	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh	4:15
San Diego at Philadelphia	1:00
San Francisco at St. Louis	1:00
Tennessee at Minnesota	1:00
Washington at Arizona	4:05
Seattle at Denver	8:30
Monday, December 10	
Indianapolis at Miami	9:00

WEEK 15

(Open date: Carolina)

Saturday, December 15	
Arizona at N.Y. Giants	12:30
Oakland at San Diego	1:00
Sunday, December 16	
Atlanta at Indianapolis	1:00
Cincinnati at N.Y. Jets	1:00
Dallas at Seattle	4:15
Denver at Kansas City	1:00
Green Bay at Tennessee	4:15
Jacksonville at Cleveland	1:00
Miami at San Francisco	4:05
Minnesota at Detroit	1:00
New England at Buffalo	1:00
Philadelphia at Washington	1:00
Tampa Bay at Chicago	1:00
Pittsburgh at Baltimore	8:30
Monday, December 17	
St. Louis at New Orleans	9:00

WEEK 16

(Open date: Denver)

Saturday, December 22	
Miami at New England	12:30
Philadelphia at San Francisco	4:00
Tennessee at Oakland	9:00
Sunday, December 23	
Buffalo at Atlanta	1:00
Chicago at Washington	1:00
Cincinnati at Baltimore	1:00
Cleveland at Green Bay	1:00
Dallas at Arizona	4:05
Detroit at Pittsburgh	1:00
Jacksonville at Minnesota	4:15
New Orleans at Tampa Bay	1:00
St. Louis at Carolina	1:00
San Diego at Kansas City	1:00
Seattle at N.Y. Giants	1:00
N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis	8:30

WEEK 17

(Open date: New England)

Saturday, December 29	
Baltimore at Tampa Bay	9:00
Sunday, December 30	
Arizona at Carolina	1:00
Atlanta at Miami	1:00
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets	1:00
Chicago at Detroit	1:00
Cleveland at Tennessee	1:00
Indianapolis at St. Louis	1:00
Kansas City at Jacksonville	1:00
Minnesota at Green Bay	1:00
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia	1:05
Oakland at Denver	4:15
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati	1:00
San Francisco at Dallas	1:00
Seattle at San Diego	4:15
Washington at New Orleans	8:30

POSTSEASON GAMES

WILD CARD GAMES

Saturday-Sunday, January 5-6, 2002

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday-Sunday, January 12-13, 2002

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, January 20, 2002

SUPER BOWL XXXV

(The Superdome, New Orleans)

Sunday, January 27, 2002

AFC-NFC PRO BOWL

(Honolulu)

Sunday, February 3, 2002

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A close-up photograph of a white bulldog with a black face mask, wearing a red jersey with black trim. The dog is sitting on a blue inflatable object, possibly a beach ball or a small pool. In the background, a person's legs and a red and black striped rope are visible.

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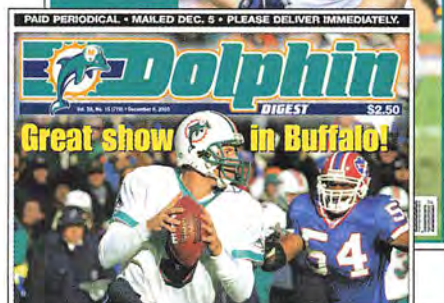
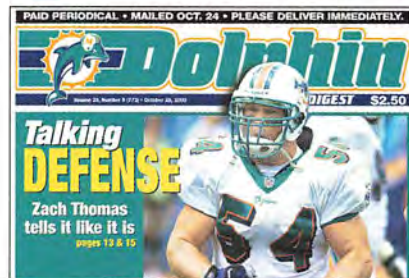
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changing engine oil 57

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